MANGA BY
Mingming
CREATED BY
GAINAX • khara
2
NEON GENESIS EVANGELION
Campus Apocalypse

A NEXUS SPAWNING A WEB OF MYRIAD PATHS—
AND YET, THERE IS ONLY ONE PATH TO BE TAKEN.
...WHAT IS THIS...?
AND THE INEVITABLE CIRCUMSTANCES CONTINUE TO DRAW HIM FURTHER ALONG—
WE'RE NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO DO THIS... WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO DO FROM HERE ON OUT IS...

WHAT IS THE FUTURE THAT YOU WILL BRING?

FIFTH EVENT

NEON GENESIS EVANGELION

Campus Apocalypse

CREATED BY
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FIFTH EVENT……001
SIXTH EVENT……031
SEVENTH EVENT……057
EIGHTH EVENT……085
NINTH EVENT……113
TENTH EVENT……139
AFTERWORD……177

EVERY YEAR, THE NERV ACADEMY CELEBRATES THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST WITH A CELEBRATION KNOWN AS "THE FESTIVAL OF THE HOLY SAVIOR."
ON THIS DAY--AND ONLY ON THIS DAY--DOES THE ACADEMY OPEN ITS GATES TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND IT'S ALWAYS QUITE THE DRAW, PACKED WITH FESTIVALGOERS.

聖ソー
FESTIVAL OF THE HOLY SAVIOR
AT THE FESTIVAL, THE CHIEF ATTRACTION IS THE CHORAL CLUB PERFORMING THE HYMNALS, AS WELL AS A STAGE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIVITY PLAY.
AND THIS YEAR, SHINJI'S CLASS IS IN CHARGE OF IT.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHERE IS REI?

WELL, I WOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT HER. AFTER ALL, SHE BASICALLY HAD A SUBSITUTE UNDERSTUDY ROLE ASSIGNED TO HER YESTERDAY.
YEP YEP! TOTALLY AGREE THERE. AND BESIDES, IT'S A ROLE WITH ABSOLUTELY NO SPEAKING LINES, ANYWAY.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO YAMMERING ON ABOUT? AS LONG AS I'M INVOLVED IN THIS PLAY, FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION, GOT IT?
I LIKE THIS WILD HOLY VIRGIN...
disappointed
MAN, SORYU-S SURE CHANGED
Featuring Asuka as the Holy Virgin Mary
BAKA SHINJI, DID YOU HEAR ANY ACTUAL NEWS? I MEAN, YOU'RE NEIGHBORS, RIGHT?
yank
HOW ON EARTH WOULD I KNOW IF YOU DON'T KNOW, HUH, ASUKA? TO BEGIN WITH, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE HER HOUSE IS, AND--
--WAIT-- SHE LIVES CLOSE TO ME?
SWOOSH

BOOM!
UM...
(silence)
AH--
AYA-NAMI !?
clomp clomp
er..
すぽっ
plop!
Featuring Rei as the Pantomime Horse

WELL, WHATEVER. THAT'S FINE. MORE IMPORTANTLY--
plop!
IT'S FINE?!
I MEAN, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO BE WEARING IT ANYWAY, AND IT WAS A LOT EASIER THAN CARRYING IT, AND BESIDES--WEARING IT HAS A CALMING EFFECT.
mod
REI-- DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY TO SCHOOL WITH THAT ON YOUR HEAD?
I GET IT.
CONSIDER THIS YOUR DUTY!
A HORSE, GOT IT? A HORSE.
AS I MENTIONED YESTERDAY, YOU DON'T HAVE ANY LINES AT ALL, AND ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS STAND THERE, LIKE A HORSE WOULD STAND THERE.
THERE'S SOMETHING JUST WRONG ABOUT THIS SCENE.
UM, LIKE--
jerk
HUH?
NO, IT WASN'T.
MINE WAS FUNNIER.
AY, WHY YA PANTIN' SO HARD, SHINJI? HOPIN' T' GET A LITTLE HOARSE?
my neigh-bor...
NOW I'VE GOT NO REASON TO ASK IF I CAN WALK HER HOME--

WELL, I CAN'T REALLY SAY THAT ASUKA AND I GET ALONG ALL THAT WELL, BUT...
UH, WELL-- LIKE--
IT'S JUST, SOME THINGS HAPPENED, AND, LIKE...
...LIKE THERE'S REALLY ANY WAY THAT I CAN TELL HIM THAT WE'RE FIGHTING TOGETHER TO SAVE THE WORLD.
ASUKA LANGLEY SORYU.
Doesn't your face get all steamed up in there?
No, it's fine.
REI AYANAMI (UNDER HORSE HEAD)
KAWORU NAGISA!
WHY ARE YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN HANGING OUT WITH THOSE WACKA-LOONS, HUH?
"When it's winter, you sleep where it's warm."

No denying the wackaloon part.

I DIDN'T HAVE ANY TIME TO EAT BREAKFAST, SO--
OKAY, THEN, GET ON WITH EATING IT REALLY QUICK--
-- WE'RE LOSING VALUABLE PRACTICE TIME.
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE CARRYING?
rustle

YOU'RE TAKING THIS WAAAAAY TOO FAR!!
LOOK, I'LL TAKE YOU DOWN TO THE CAFETERIA AND TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING AFTER THIS, SO JUST STOP WITH THE CARROT STUFF, ALL RIGHT?
I MUST BECOME THE CHARACTER, JUST AS IF I WERE BORN AS A PANTOMIME HORSE.
CRUNCH CRUNCH
METHOD ACTING.
...WAIT, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
CHOMP CHOMP
OH, IKARI-KUN.
drag drag
Oh—!! I'LL GO, TOO.
SURE THING, CLASS REP.
WOULD YOU MIND HELPING ME OUT BY CHECKING ON THE MAIN HALL AND SEEING HOW THINGS ARE GOING?

and the Virgin doth pray~

THEY'VE GOT VOICES LIKE ANGELS~ SOMETHING ABOUT IT JUST PURIFIES THE SOUL.

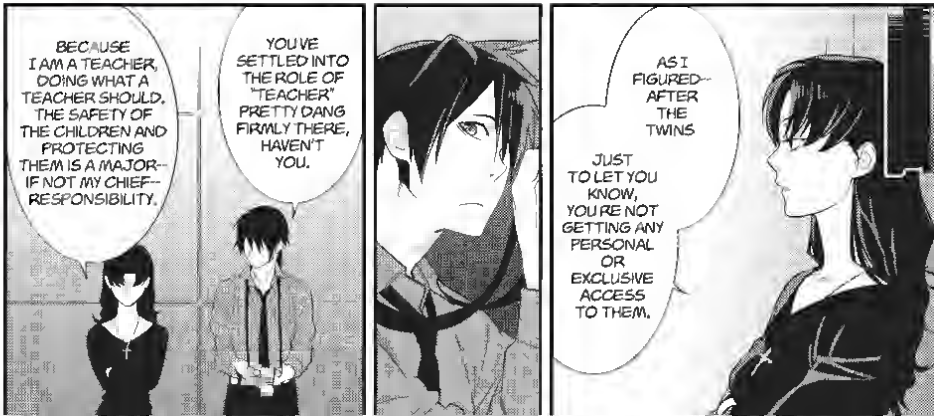
I GUESS I SHOULD CHECK ON HOW THEY'RE ALL DOING.

WHAT'RE YOU~
WHOA~
OH~ HEY, YOU.
'SUP.
stare
stare

HERE YA GO.
PRESS
UH, LIKE--
who, me?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A RELATIVE'S PASS, YOU CAN'T GET IN THIS FAR.
GOOD THING I'M A GUARDIAN FOR A STUDENT HERE--
Looks surprisingly authentic...

chak
click


BECAUSE I AM A TEACHER, DOING WHAT A TEACHER SHOULD. THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN AND PROTECTING THEM IS A MAJOR-- IF NOT MY CHIEF-- RESPONSIBILITY.
YOU'VE SETTLED INTO THE ROLE OF "TEACHER" PRETTY DANG FIRMLY THERE, HAVEN'T YOU.
AS I FIGURED-- AFTER THE TWINS
JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY PERSONAL OR EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO THEM.

click
chak
SO, IT'S OKAY, THEN?
WHAT? HUH?
HUH. REALLY.
Pfft! Ha Ha Ha!
I'M SURE IT'S A LOT EASIER TO PUT UP WITH THAN YOUR PERPETUALLY MESSY PLACE, HUH. HA!
I MEAN, IT MUST BE TOUGH FOR SHINJI-KUN TO PUT UP WITH, POOR GUY.
>sigh<
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU REALLY DO ANYTHING GUARDIAN-LIKE, ANYWAY.
WAIT-- KAJI-SAN!
...
eep!
YOU CAME.
YUP.
I FIGURED, I GOT TICKETS AND EVERY-THING.
IS THAT A FRIEND OF YOURS?
uh-huh
HEYA~ SHINJI-KUN!

YOU--
I FEEL LIKE I'VE MET--
WHOA--
NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M KAWORU NAGISA.
THAT'S THE GIRL FROM THE OTHER DAY...

FAMOUS? HOW?
WELL, YOU COULD SAY THEY'RE FAMOUS.
THERE IN THE MIDDLE?
YEP.
CECILIA DI NUOVO.
MAKOTO DI NUOVO.
WELL, THEIR PARENTS-- AN ITALIAN AND A JAPANESE--ARE WORLD-CLASS OPERA SINGERS, AND JUST LAST YEAR, THEY TOOK EVERY AWARD IMAGINABLE AT AN INTERNATIONAL CHORAL AND VOCAL COMPETITION.
DESPITE BEING REALLY YOUNG, THESE TWINS ARE SERIOUS BUSINESS.

I COULDN'T PRAY FOR A BETTER OPPOR-TUNITY THAN THIS.
I MEAN, THE PRESS WAS LINED UP FOR A MILE OUTSIDE OF THIS PLACE; YOU NOTICE THAT?
WOW-- THEY REALLY ARE SOMETHING SPECIAL, THEN.
WHA--?!
I THINK HE JUST LOOKED OVER HERE AT ME.
...

RIGHT, THEN, SO WHY'RE YOU TWO DOWN HERE AGAIN?
oh!
WE WERE ASKED TO CHECK IN AND SEE HOW THINGS WERE PROCEEDING.
RIGHT WE OUGHT TO GET STARTED WITH PREPARATIONS HERE PRETTY QUICKLY.
SHINJI-KUN, AREN'T YOU DOING SOME SORT OF PERFORMANCE OR SOMETHING?
PFFT-- I'M JUST A STAGEHAND.
OUR CLASS IS DOING A PERFORMANCE OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY.
THAT'LL BE COOL-- LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
pat
pat
JUST GIVE IT YOUR BEST, YOU TWO! BREAK A EG.
!
blush

I GUESS HE'S NOT AS BAD OF A PARENTAL GUARDIAN AS I THOUGHT HE'D BE.
WHA--?
I'M-- I'M SO SORRY.
WE WERE JUST GOING THROUGH SOME PRACTICE AND SHE SPRAINED HER ANKLE...
THIS ISN'T GOOD. WITHOUT AN ANGEL TO PERFORM THE ANNUNCIATION OF CHRIST, THIS WON'T REALLY BE A PLAY ABOUT THE NATIVITY.

ASUKA?
WE CAN STILL DO THIS!
HOLD ON A SECOND, SENSEI.
"d Holy Ghost shaL cum upon thee LOL."
OF COURSE, THE WAY KIDS ARE THESE DAYS, PROBABLY JUST HAVING GABRIEL TEXT MARY WOULD BE FINE. WE'LL JUST DO A QUICK REWRITE.
trot!
WHA-- C'MON!
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO SHOW THAT MUG OF YOURS, AND I MEAN, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE JUST STANDING THERE AND DOING NOTHING, RIGHT?
AND HERE YOU GO, SHINJI!
BUT-- I'M THE HORSE
HUH?
Jo
flap!
JUST GO THROUGH HERE AND MEMORIZE ANY LINES THAT HAVE A RED LINE UNDER THEM. YOU HAVE AN HOUR.
REI! YOU SAT THROUGH A COUPLE OF THE PRACTICE RUNS AND SAW THIS, SCENE DIDN'T YOU?
HUH? UH, IT'S A RUN-NING GAG.
WHAT'S ALL THIS "MISSION" TALK?
U WELL, UH, I'M NOT SURE THAT SAYING IS REALLY APPLICABLE HERE IT'S NOT A MISSION--
PIPE DOWN! AS LONG AS I HAVE BREATH IN MY BODY, FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION-- GOT IT?
THINGS LIKE THIS OCCUR NATURALLY! ACCIDENTS ACCOMPANY MISSIONS, AS THEY SAY, AND BESIDES, IF WE CAN'T THINK OUR WAY OUT OF A LITTLE PROBLEM LIKE THIS, HOW CAN YOU EXPECT TO GET ANYTHING DONE AT ALL, HUH?
OKAY, IN ALL SELFLESSNESS, I REALLY THINK THAT ASKING AYANAMI TO MEMORIZE THOSE LINES IN UNDER AN HOUR IS--
lunge
ugh
but... I'm the horse...

THIS IS-- MY MISSION?
flip flip
WHOA-- MISATO-SENSEI, YOU'RE ACTUALLY DRINKING THE KOOL-AID HERE, TOO?
WELL, IT IS REI, AFTER ALL. IT MIGHT JUST WORK.
I UNDER-STAND. LET'S DO THIS.
thwap
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHATEVER LITTLE ACCIDENTS MIGHT HAPPEN, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THE WORD "FAILURE" DOESN'T REGISTER IN OUR VOCABULARY, GOT IT?
she fell for it...
AYANAMI! DON'T FALL FOR IT! DON'T FALL FOR--
IKARI-KUN.

HUH?
ONCE I'VE COMPLETED THIS "MISSION," THERE IS SOMETHING THAT I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
hmm...
HARK!
HARK!

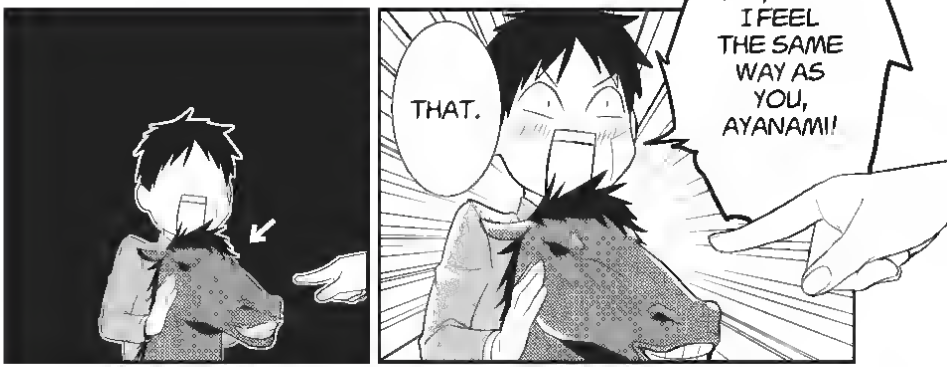
BLESSED ARE THEE. AS THE LORD IS WITH THEE.
FOR THOU SHALL BECOME WITH CHILD..
...AND YOU SHALL GIVE THE NAME OF JESUS TO THE HENCE-BORN.
OF WHATEVER DO YOU SPEAK? AS I AM NOT MARRIED NOR BETROTHED, BUT VIRGINAL IN BODY AND SPIRIT.
FEAR NOT, MARY...
...FOR THOU HAST RECEIVED A GIFT FROM THE LORD.

FOR HE SHALL BE THE KING OF KINGS, AND VOICES WILL PRAISE HIM, CALLING HIM THE SON OF GOD.
AND THE LORD OUR GOD SHALL GIVETH UNTO HIM THE THRONE OF THE GREAT IN THE NAME OF HIS FATHER, DAVID.
AND HE SHALL RULE OVER THE HOUSE OF DAVID FOR ALL OF ETERNITY, WITHOUT END.
backstage
WOW...
BOTH OF THEM ARE SO PRETTY!
THEY'RE NOT BAD!

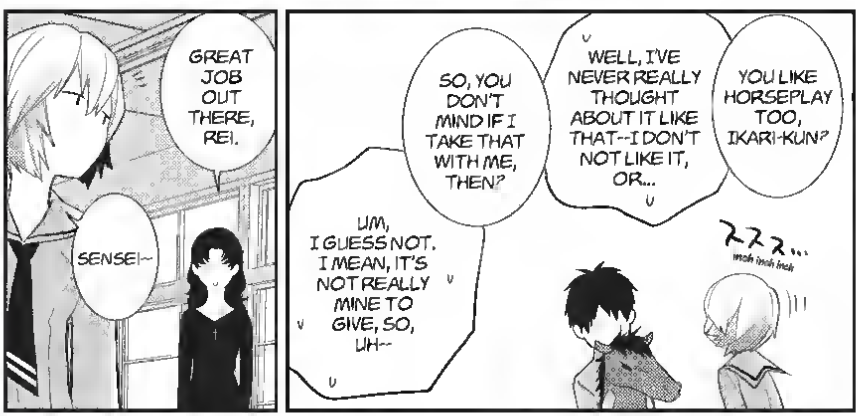
ONCE SHE GETS THE WORD "MISSION" IN HER HEAD, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT IT IS-- YOU CAN JUST EXPECT IT WILL BE EXECUTED PERFECTLY.
huh
SHE SHOULD HAVE JUST BEEN THE ANGEL THE ENTIRE TIME INSTEAD OF BEING RELEGATED TO BEING THE HORSE.
I MEAN, TO PULL ALL OF THAT OFF SO PERFECTLY WITH SUCH SHORT NOTICE AND LITTLE PRACTICE.
AYANAMI JUST LOOKS-- BEAUTIFUL.
WHAT'S MORE--
huh?
SHE--IT--IT COULDN'T BE... THAT--?!
OKAY!
OKAY EVERYONE, GET READY FOR THE NATIVITY SCENE!
AND SPEAKING OF THAT, I WONDER WHAT SHE NEEDED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT LATER?

CONF--
CONFESS
HER--
COULD THIS
MEAN SHE'S
GOING TO--
dreamy eyes
flushed cheeks
グラ
wobble
BONK
BONK
ドン
down
WHAT'RE
YOU STARING
AT, HUH?
YOU'RE UP
NOW, TOO!
NOW GO
BREAK A LEG!
whap
OOF!
...SMASH!
You
gotta
be kid-
ding
me.
キャー
OH NO!
THE SET!
IT'S
CRASH-
ING
DOWN--

Why is it my fault?
sigh
punched by Asuka
IKARI-KUN.
ドキーン!
THERE SHE IS!
OH, AYANAMI! GREAT WORK OUT THERE! I MEAN, YOU PERFORMED YOUR PART ABSOLUTELY PERFECTLY!
(highly unnatural)
OH YEAH, SO, RIGHT-- YOU MENTIONED A BIT BACK YOU HAD SOMETHING TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
um...
IKARI-KUN. WELL, I--
YEAH, YOU WHAT?
もじ
バックン バックン
thump! thump!
ZOOOOM!
キター!!!
THIS IS IT!!
I REALLY LOVE--
pop!
ZOOOOOM

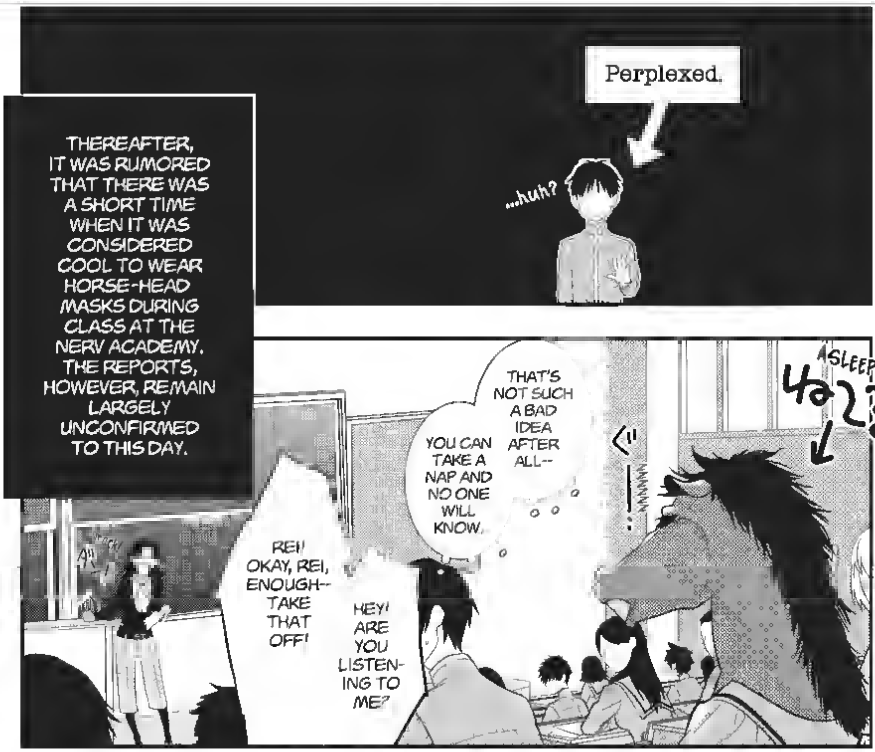

ME, TOO! I FEEL THE SAME WAY AS YOU, AYANAMI!
THAT.

THE HORSE HEAD?
YEAH, THAT.


GREAT JOB OUT THERE, REI.
SENSEI~
YOU LIKE HORSEPLAY TOO, IKARI-KUN?
WELL, I'VE NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT LIKE THAT--I DON'T NOT LIKE IT, OR...
SO, YOU DON'T MIND IF I TAKE THAT WITH ME, THEN?
UM, I GUESS NOT. I MEAN, IT'S NOT REALLY MINE TO GIVE, SO, UH--
ﾌｽｽ...
mah mah mah

I WONDER WHAT SHE'LL DO WITH IT. STRANGE. AS USUAL.
um, like... uh...

MAY I TAKE THE HORSE HEAD?
WHY NOT? I DON'T REALLY CARE EITHER WAY, SINCE WE HAVE NO USE FOR IT ANYMORE.


Perplexed.
...huh?
THEREAFTER, IT WAS RUMORED THAT THERE WAS A SHORT TIME WHEN IT WAS CONSIDERED COOL TO WEAR HORSE-HEAD MASKS DURING CLASS AT THE NERV ACADEMY. THE REPORTS, HOWEVER, REMAIN LARGELY UNCONFIRMED TO THIS DAY.
REI! OKAY, REI, ENOUGH-- TAKE THAT OFF!
HEY! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
YOU CAN TAKE A NAP AND NO ONE WILL KNOW.
THAT'S NOT SUCH A BAD IDEA AFTER ALL--
ASLEEP.
Hazzo

END

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR
FORGIVE US
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FOR GIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM
THE EVIL ONE.
FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

SIXTH EVENT

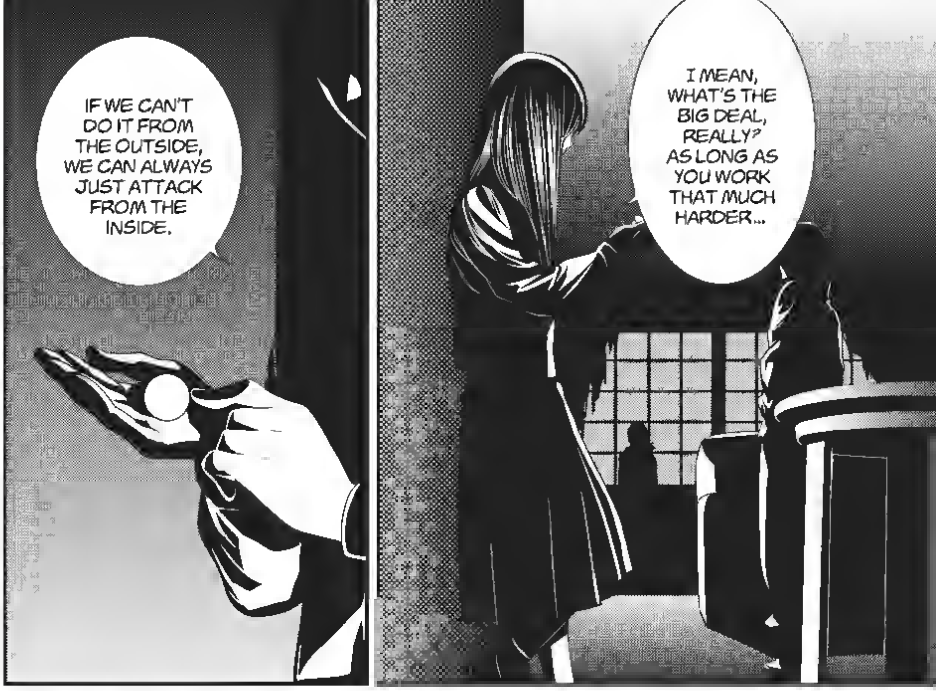
ARAEL AND RAMIEL HAVE FALLEN TO THEIR HUNT.
WE'RE THE ONLY REMAINING ANGELS, NOW.

I THINK THAT WE MIGHT HAVE UNDER-ESTIMATED THEM.
WE CAN'T JUST STAND HERE WITH OUR ARMS FOLDED, WATCHING, ANY LONGER.
BUT I'D ALSO SAY THAT WE'RE HARDLY IN A POSITION TO ATTACK AT THE MOMENT.
WELL, YOU'RE THE ONE WITH YOUR FINGER ON THE PULSE AND YOUR EYES ON THE PRIZE AT THAT SCHOOL--WHAT IF WE LOWERED OUR HEADS, PUT OUR HORNS FORWARD, AND JUST WENT BALLISTIC, HUH?
THE INFORMATION THAT I BRING IS ONLY WHAT I CAN GATHER AROUND THE SCHOOL, BUT I'D STILL PREFER NOT TO JUST RUSH INTO THINGS THAT WILL BRING US NOTHING BUT GRIEF.
RIGHT, SO WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO LIVE LIKE ROACHES FROM HERE ON OUT, SCURRYING AROUND IN THE SHADOWS AND ONLY REALLY ABLE TO MOVE AT NIGHT? YEAH, I'LL PASS ON THAT
WE JUST KEEP GETTING PUSHED AND PUSHED--WELL, I SAY IT'S TIME WE SNAP BACK AND BUST THEM DOWN ONCE AND FOR ALL.
YEAH, WELL, DON'T THINK THAT I JUST WANNA GET OUTSIDE AND START DESTROYING STUFF--COUNT ME OUT ON THAT.
YOU SHOULD'VE CONSIDERED "TAKING" A MORE INTELLECTUALLY POTENT VESSEL, YOU KNOW THAT?
BUT IT'S NOT REALLY AN ISSUE WITH THE VESSEL AT ALL--USER ERROR, FROM THE GET-GO.

I AM NOW CERTAIN OF WHAT I ONCE FELT--THAT THERE ARE OTHER ANGELS PRESENT IN THAT SCHOOL.
THE HELL DID YOU JUST SAY? HUH!?
ENOUGH, ZERUEL, ISRAFEL.

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU THAT MY LITTLE SISTER WOULDN'T BECOME INVOLVED.
AND ISRAFEL, AS FAR AS YOUR, WELL, "PARTNER" AND SOURCE OF INFORMATION IS CONCERNED--
HOWEVER, SINCE WE ALREADY OCCUPY BODIES, OUR MEANS OF INFILTRATING ARE NOW LIMITED.

WOW— THEN YOU'VE REALLY GOTTEN INTO THIS.


IF WE CAN'T DO IT FROM THE OUTSIDE, WE CAN ALWAYS JUST ATTACK FROM THE INSIDE.
I MEAN, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL, REALLY? AS LONG AS YOU WORK THAT MUCH HARDER...

AS FOR ME--
THERE ARE SOME STUDENTS, AFTER ALL.
--I THINK I WANT WHAT WE ALL DO--NOT TO JUST SIT AROUND AND WAIT TO BE HUNTED DOWN.

SIXTH EVENT

perk
perk
YEAH?
flap
SO, UH, KAJI-SAN...

IT JUST SEEMS THAT, WELL, RECENTLY, YOU'VE BEEN AT THE HOUSE AN AWFUL LOT, SO...
I MEAN, IS EVERY-THING OKAY AT WORK?
IT'S JUST THAT RIGHT NOW, IT'S EASIER AND BETTER FOR ME TO BE AT HOME.
SO THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING ABOUT ME, HUH?
OH, THAT-- WELL, IT'S NOT THAT THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS WITH WORK OR ANYTHING,
AND FIRST OFF TODAY, NEWS ABOUT THE RECENT STRING OF BOMBINGS
BECOMING EVER MORE FREQUENT, THESE INCIDENTS ARE..
SINCE THOSE INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN HAPPENING FAIRLY CLOSE TO HOME AND, WELL, THEY'RE A PRETTY EASY STORY TO COVER, I THOUGHT I'D JUST DO MOST OF THE WORK HERE. IT'S NEWS PEOPLE WANNA HEAR AND IT'S IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

IT JUST FEELS LIKE REALITY IS SO FAR FROM WHAT I ONCE BELIEVED IT TO BE.
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YOU WHILE YOU WERE UNDER MY CARE WHILE YOUR POPS IS OVERSEAS, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LOOK HIM IN THE EYE.
SO, YEAH, SHINJI-KUN, I THINK YOU'D BE BETTER OFF KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR THINGS, AND GET HOME EARLIER THAN YOU USUALLY WOULD.
Flap
CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL THAT OUR INVOLVEMENT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS, THOUGH.
BUT WE HAVEN'T ENCOUNTERED ANY ANGELS SINCE THAT NIGHT.
RIGHT, I'LL BE CAREFUL.
AND IT'S REALLY HARD SINCE KAJI-SAN IS IN THE BUSINESS OF NEWS, I HAVE TO MAKE SURE NOT TO GET CAUGHT.
THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN NUMEROUS PLEAS TO THE POLICE FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING MISSING PERSONS
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, I HAVEN'T BEEN DEPLOYED ON ANY "MISSIONS" SINCE THEN.

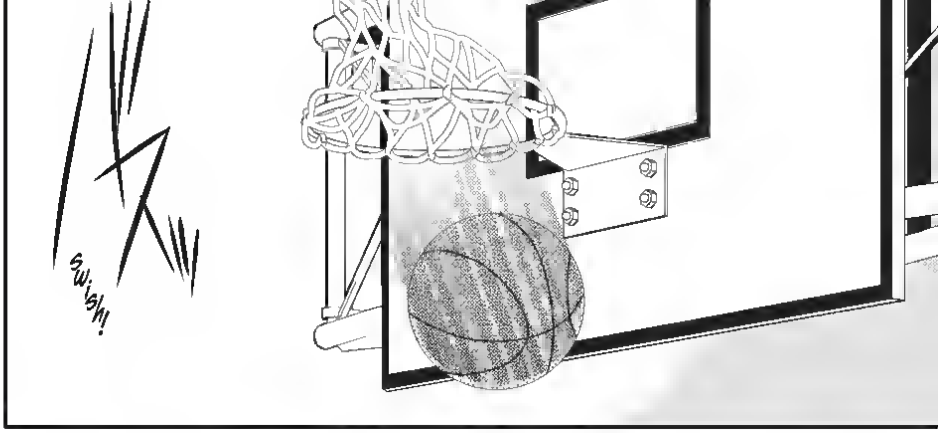
--POLICE ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SEVERAL CITIZENS' DISAPPEARANCES AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THEY ARE RELATED TO THE RASH OF BOMBINGS.
AND, ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS TAKEN FROM NEAR THE SCENE OF THE EXPLOSIONS--
CRAFT
カチャ
SHINJI-KUN?
SHINJI-KUN, WHAT'S WRONG?

Huh?
GET HIM, SHINJI!
STOP HIM!

AH--
RIGHT,
I'M IN
CLASS
RIGHT
NOW.
grin
whizz
squeak
?!

SHREEEET!
FOUL! ON RED, NUMBER THREE!
Aw, shit.
IDIOT...
SORRY ABOUT THAT. YOU OKAY?
YEAH, I'M FINE.
THAT WAS SURPRISING.
FIGURED FOR SURE I'D CUT THROUGH HIS D.
BLACK NUMBER NINE, TO THE STRIPE.

ドドドド!
glance
チラ
KAWORU-KUN HAS SOME LIGHTNING REFLEXES ON HIM--
WHY ON EARTH WOULD SOMEONE AS UNATHLETIC AS ME BE ABLE TO COMMAND AN EVA?
...
FWEEEEE


SWISH!

STUDY HALL IN COMPUTER CLASS NEXT PERIOD! RIGHT ON!
TIME TO GET A LITTLE GAMING IN THERE, EH? HA HA.
KAWORU-KUN, THAT'S A NASTY COURT BURN THERE ON YOUR ARM.
WHA--HUH. WHADDAYA KNOW.

YOU DON'T WANT THAT GETTING INFECTED OR SOME-THING--
--Y'KNOW?
I'M SO SORRY, MAN! THAT MUST HAVE HAPPENED WHEN WE CRASHED INTO EACH OTHER...
MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAD TO THE SCHOOL NURSE'S OFFICE AND GET IT CHECKED OUT, HUH?
HUH? NAH, IT'S REALLY NOT...
GOTCHA. YEAH, I'LL GET IT LOOKED AT.
CLASSIC ME, GETTING PEOPLE HURT ALL THE TIME.
sigh
JUST LIKE THAT TIME--

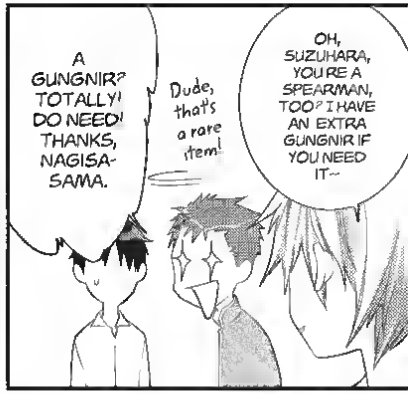
HUH--
WHAT--
WAIT--
WHAT--!?
OH, UH--
NOTHING.
NOTHING'S
WRONG.
WHAT?

'SUP, NAGISA.
clap
I MEAN, EVEN AYANAMI WAS BANDAGED UP FOR A BIT THERE.
MAYBE HE HAS ABNORMALLY FAST HEALING?
FOR HAVING SO MUCH BLOOD POUR OUT OF HIM IT WASN'T THE WORST OF WOUNDS, AS HE SAID...
BUT NOT EVEN A SCAR? REALLY?
YEAH, THAT GAME'S GREAT. HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS? SUZUHARA?
JUST WONDERING IF YOU'RE CAUGHT UP IN THAT HOT NEW GAME, "APOCALYPSE OF NIGHT"?
WHAT'S YOUR AVATAR'S NAME AND CLASS, NAGISA?
HELL YEAH. I'M A SPEARMAN! LEVEL 42!
A FALLEN ANGEL.
TABRIS.

ONLINE GAMES HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY POPULAR AT OUR SCHOOL RECENTLY.
A— A FALLEN ANGEL? THAT'S SOME HARDCORE LEET THERE--YOU MUST BE PRETTY INTO THAT GAME TO GET ACCESS TO THAT RARE CLASS.
HEYA, SHINJI! YA OUGHTA TRY IT, TOO!
WE COULD GROUP UP! MAKE A TEAM!
What? Why are you asking me about this...?
...I'M NOT REALLY INTO GAMES ALL THAT MUCH.

WT--WAIT!
DUDE, IF YOU JOIN UP WIT' US, SO WILL NAGISA, AN' THEN WE CAN PWN NOOBZ 'CAUSE HIS CLASS IS TOTALLY BADASS.
EVEN THOUGH YOU TREATED HIM LIKE A LEPER BEFORE...
Oh, if that's why you want me in...
...THEN NO WAY.

BUT WAIT, YOU HAVE TO BE LEVEL 50 OR HIGHER TO USE THAT, RIGHT?
SHIT! THAT'S RIGHT! DAMN!
WOW, PEOPLE ARE REALLY INTO THAT GAME.


OH, SUZUHARA, YOU'RE A SPEARMAN, TOO? I HAVE AN EXTRA GUNGNIR IF YOU NEED IT--
Dude, that's a rare item!
A GUNGNIR? TOTALLY! DO NEED! THANKS, NAGISA-SAMA.

FOURTH PERIOD
STUDY HALL
GOD, THIS IS BORING.
BOTH TOJI AND KENSUKE ARE WRAPPED UP IN THAT GAME...
SERIOUSLY, THOUGH...
... I DIDN'T THINK THAT KAWORU-KUN WAS INTO ONLINE GAMES—HE JUST DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THE TYPE.
RIGHT!
KENSUKE! KENSUKE!
WHAT?

カカカカカ
tap tap tap tap
CLICK
カチッ
AND THERE YOU GO.
GONNA SEND YOU THE LINK.
NO WORRIES. HOLD ON.
A WHILE BACK, YOU WERE TELLING US ABOUT THE PROPHECY OF THE MAGI, AND MENTIONED A WEBSITE WHERE YOU FOUND IT--
boop
ポーン
chakka
カチッ
WOW, THAT WAS QUICK!
THANK YOU!
http://www.e
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY INFORMATION OUT THERE ABOUT US OR WHAT WE'RE DOING, AND IT WOULD BE A NIGHTMARE IF SOME OF THAT WERE TO GET OUT.
OH--
THERE IT IS.

WHAT THE...
HUH. EVEN THOUGH ALL THOSE SUCCESSIVE EXPLOSIONS HAPPENED AND PEOPLE WENT MISSING AND ALL THAT, NONE OF THAT IS EVEN MENTIONED ON THIS SITE.
ニヤリ
WE MADE THAT SITE.
HEY, UH, KAWORU-KUN. YOU KNOW THIS SITE?
SURE.
YEAH, WELL, TO BE PRECISE, SOMEONE IN THE ORGANIZATION MADE IT.
WAI-- WHAT? YOU GUYS? KAWORU-KUN?!

Organization...?
HUH-- WOW-- REALLY.
!
IT'S BASICALLY A SMALL PROP TO MOVE OUR "PRODUCTION," SO I WOULDN'T GET TOO WORKED UP OVER IT.
WE MADE THIS AND KINDA PLANTED A SEED, LETTING A LITTLE INFORMATION OUT THERE TO SEE IF ANYTHING WOULD "HOOK" AND WE COULD REEL IN SOME INFORMATION.
WELL, BASICALLY, WE HAD NO IDEA WHERE ANY OF THE ANGELS WERE, AND INFORMATION WAS, WELL, LIMITED, SO--
OKAY, SO WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "ORGANIZATION"?
LIKE, THERE ARE OTHERS LIKE US THAT DO WHA--
WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT LATER, OKAY?
むぐ" Mmph!
THAT MAKES SENSE-- WE'RE AT SCHOOL NOW.
RIGHT.
THERE'S NO WAY--
--ANYONE KNOWS OR WOULD UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.

BUT THE REALITY IS--
THOSE EXPLOSIONS WERE JUST "INCIDENTS," AND IF THOSE PEOPLE THAT WENT MISSING EVENTUALLY SHOW UP, WELL, IT'S SOMEONE ELSE'S BUSINESS.
SERIOUS
REALLY, THOUGH, TO EVERYONE ELSE--
BUT THERE ARE PEOPLE DYING OUT THERE.
: gulp
NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT THIS. THEY HAVE NO IDEA.
ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE ANGELS, OR WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON IN THIS WORLD.
KAWORU-KUN...

...WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU PEOPLE?
END

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR
FORGIVE US
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FOR GIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM
THE EVIL ONE.
FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

SEVENTH EVENT

OH--

I FORGOT MY PENCIL CASE--YOU HEAD ON DOWN TO THE CAFÉ WITHOUT ME WHILE I GO BACK AND GET IT.
WANT ME TO GO AHEAD AND BUY A MEAL TICKET FOR YOU, TOO?
YEAH, PLEASE GET THE LUNCH SPECIAL FOR ME, OKAY?
OKAY.

KAWORU-KUN.
OH, UH-- LIKE~

I THINK I'D ACTUALLY RATHER HAVE CURRY.
GOT IT.

SWOOSH

YOU'RE--
MAKOTO DI NUOVO!
WHA-- WHAT THE--
WHAT'S AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER DOING IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING?
HERE YOU GO.

...
OH, AND--
THANK Y--
HOW'D HE KNOW?
IT'S YOURS, RIGHT?
HUH? UH, YEAH.
--FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE NOT TO GET NEAR CES, GOT IT?
step step step
MAKOTO!
HUH?
CEASE? CES?

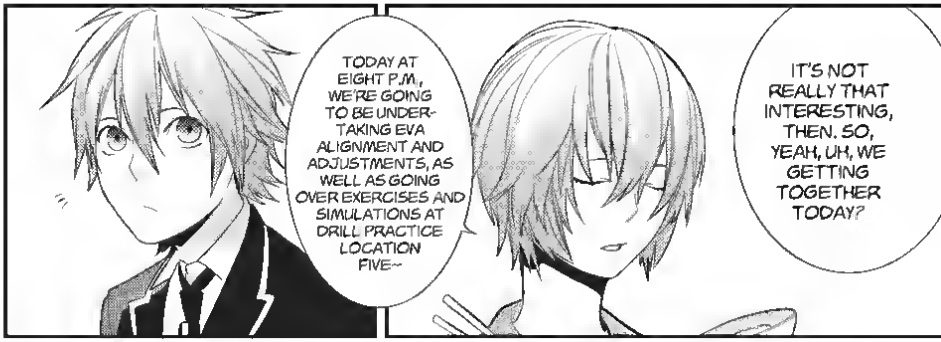
YOU JUST DISAPPEARED THE SECOND I LOOKED AWAY-- I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO--
I FEEL LIKE I'M IN THE PRESENCE OF GREAT-NESS-- WHAT DO I DO?
RIGHT-- CECILIA-CHAN, WASN'T IT?
Oh...
HELLO.
smile
blush
OH--

jump
MI DISPIACE!*
*I'M SORRY!
WHAT?
WHAT THE HECK IS~
20000m
CES!
spin
CES, YOU CAN'T JUST HEAD BACK BY YOURSELF!
gloom
gloom
Wonder what I said to make her take off like that.

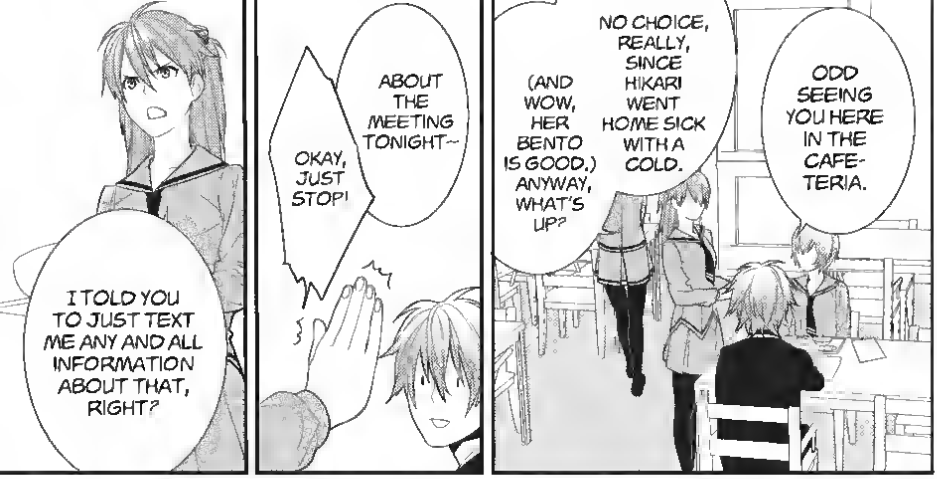
THAT WAS SCARY --!!
thud thud thud thud
CES!
whew
I CAN'T SAY THAT I BLAME HER FOR BEING SCARED, I MEAN, IF THAT HAPPENED TO ME--
--I'D BE SCARED, TOO.

THEY SAY THAT READING WHILE YOU EAT IS BAD FOR DIGESTION.
WHAT AM I SAYING— I'M STILL SCARED!

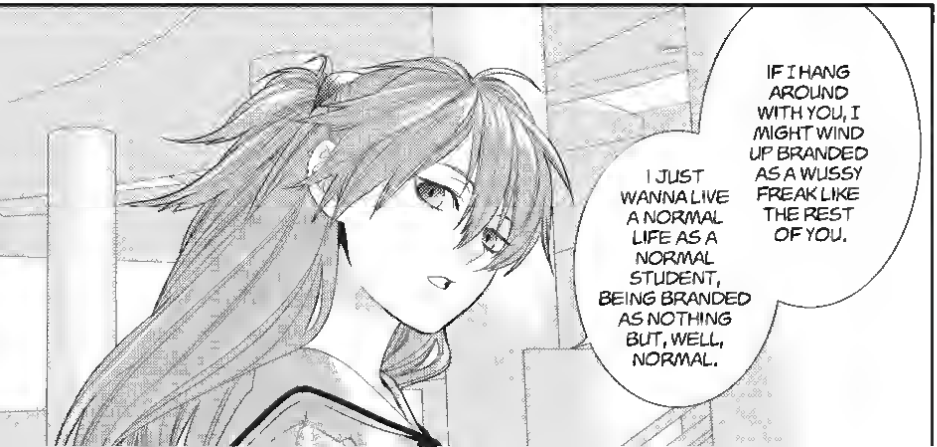
IT APPEARS TO BE SOME SORT OF "RECORD OF ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT."
I ALWAYS SEE YOU WITH A BOOK, BUT WHAT IS IT YOU'RE ACTUALLY READING?
SLIDE
I SEE-- IT IS INTEREST-ING?
NOTHING THAT POPS OUT AT ME AS BEING DOWNRIGHT STRANGE OR ANYTHING, BUT YEAH, WHATEVER
Let's chow down!

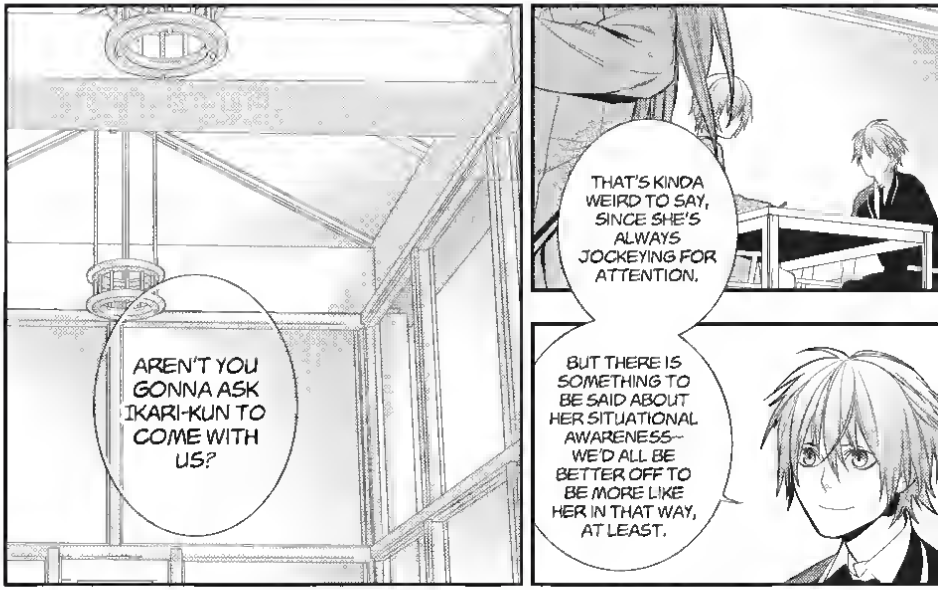

TODAY AT EIGHT P.M., WE'RE GOING TO BE UNDER-TAKING EVA ALIGNMENT AND ADJUSTMENTS, AS WELL AS GOING OVER EXERCISES AND SIMULATIONS AT DRILL PRACTICE LOCATION FIVE~
IT'S NOT REALLY THAT INTERESTING, THEN. SO, YEAH, UH, WE GETTING TOGETHER TODAY?

ASUKA!


ODD SEEING YOU HERE IN THE CAFE-TERIA.
NO CHOICE, REALLY, SINCE HIKARI WENT HOME SICK WITH A COLD.
(AND WOW, HER BENTO IS GOOD.) ANYWAY, WHAT'S UP?
ABOUT THE MEETING TONIGHT--
OKAY, JUST STOP!
I TOLD YOU TO JUST TEXT ME ANY AND ALL INFORMATION ABOUT THAT, RIGHT?

YEAH, BUT I THOUGHT SINCE YOU WERE HERE YOU MIGHT WANNA HAVE LUNCH WITH US AND WE COULD--
I'LL PASS.

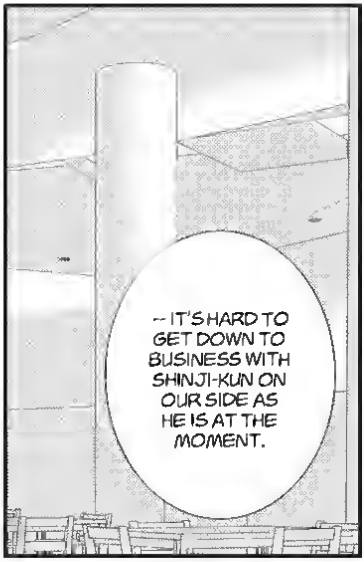

IF I HANG AROUND WITH YOU, I MIGHT WIND UP BRANDED AS A WUSSY FREAK LIKE THE REST OF YOU.
I JUST WANNA LIVE A NORMAL LIFE AS A NORMAL STUDENT, BEING BRANDED AS NOTHING BUT, WELL, NORMAL.


AREN'T YOU GONNA ASK IKARI-KUN TO COME WITH US?
THAT'S KINDA WEIRD TO SAY, SINCE SHE'S ALWAYS JOCKEYING FOR ATTENTION.
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING TO BE SAID ABOUT HER SITUATIONAL AWARENESS— WE'D ALL BE BETTER OFF TO BE MORE LIKE HER IN THAT WAY, AT LEAST.

TALKING ABOUT THE MEETING TONIGHT.
I FIGURED HE'D SHOW UP AFTER HE FINISHED UP WHATEVER HE HAD TO DO. HE IS A LITTLE LATE.

WHY?
I THINK IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THAT, TO BE HONEST.
Oh yeah—

I GENUINELY THINK THAT HE LETS HIS EMOTIONS WRAP HIM UP--LIKE A NOOSE, THE MORE HE STRUGGLES, THE HARDER HE CHOKES
BUT IT APPEARS THAT HE LACKS PATIENCE AT THIS POINT.
I MEAN, HE HAS AN EVA AND EVERY-THING.
YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I FIRST THOUGHT, TOO.
THE STRONGEST AND MOST DANGEROUS OF EMOTIONS IS PREVALENT WITH HIM--AND THAT'S FEAR.
I CAN'T FAULT HIM FOR THAT, IT'S A COMPLETELY NORMAL REACTION AND EMOTIONAL RESPONSE FOR SOMEONE WITH THIS THRUST UPON HIM.
BUT I BELIEVE THAT IT'S THAT FAULT THAT WON'T ALLOW HIM FULL CONTROL OF HIS EVA.
HE'S UNABLE TO GRASP THE TRUTH OF WHAT'S HAPPENING, BEING FROM THE "OUTSIDE," UNLIKE US.
AND SHOWING HIM WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON WOULD ONLY CAUSE HIS FEAR TO INCREASE EXPONENTIALLY AND STRANGLE HIM


-- IT'S HARD TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS WITH SHINJI-KUN ON OUR SIDE AS HE IS AT THE MOMENT.

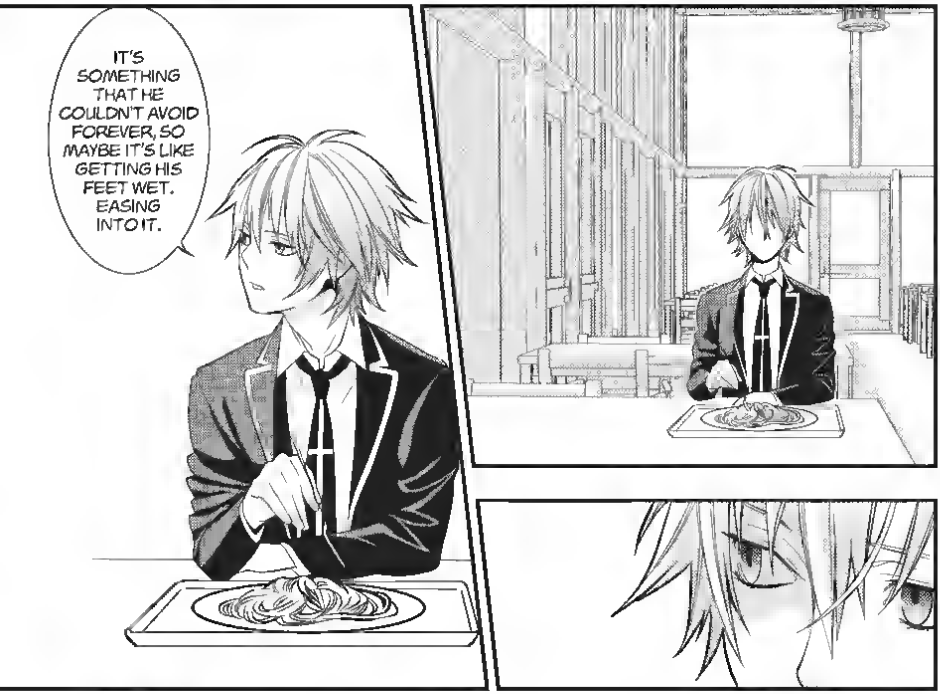
TRUTH-FULLY--
I THINK WHAT ASUKA SAYS IS NOT UNWARRANTED WE HAVE SOMETHING LIKE A HERETICAL EXISTENCE IN THE EYES OF OUTSIDERS.

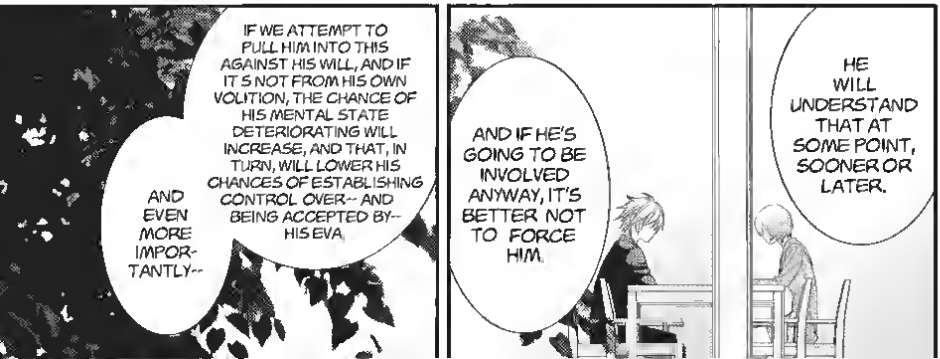
YEAH.

IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL, IT'S NOT LIKE THERE IS ANY OPPOSITION TO IT.
WELL, NO ORDERS HAVE BEEN DISPENSED FROM COMMAND EITHER WAY.

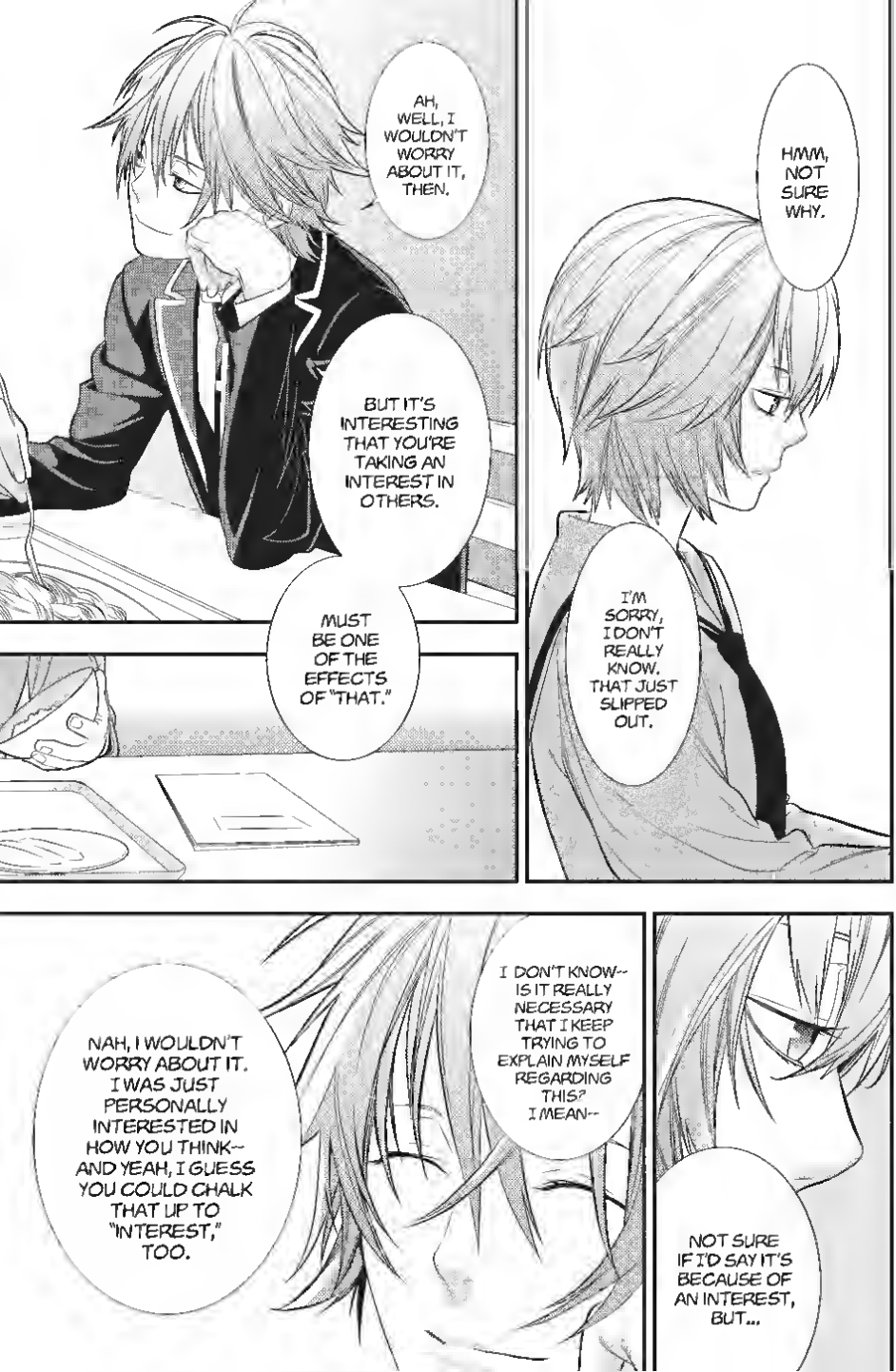
BUT WHY NOT?

THAT NIGHT, YOU KNEW THAT HE WAS FOLLOWING US ALL ALONG, AND YOU DID NOTHING TO STOP IT THEN. SO WHY NOW?


IT'S SOMETHING THAT HE COULDN'T AVOID FOREVER, SO MAYBE IT'S LIKE GETTING HIS FEET WET. EASING INTO IT.


IF WE ATTEMPT TO PULL HIM INTO THIS AGAINST HIS WILL, AND IF IT'S NOT FROM HIS OWN VOLITION, THE CHANCE OF HIS MENTAL STATE DETERIORATING WILL INCREASE, AND THAT, IN TURN, WILL LOWER HIS CHANCES OF ESTABLISHING CONTROL OVER-- AND BEING ACCEPTED BY-- HIS EVA.
AND EVEN MORE IMPOR-TANTLY--
AND IF HE'S GOING TO BE INVOLVED ANYWAY, IT'S BETTER NOT TO FORCE HIM.
HE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT AT SOME POINT, SOONER OR LATER.

—WHETHER GROWING INTO THE ROLE AND FIGHTING UNDER HIS OWN WILL, OR CONVERSELY, DECIDING TO SIDELINE HIMSELF AS A "SPARE"...
...IT'S ESSENTIAL THAT HE HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE FOR HIMSELF.
THAT'S REALLY ALL THERE IS TO IT?
WHY WOULD— WELL...
WELL...
WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?


AH, WELL, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT, THEN.
BUT IT'S INTERESTING THAT YOU'RE TAKING AN INTEREST IN OTHERS.
MUST BE ONE OF THE EFFECTS OF "THAT."
HMM, NOT SURE WHY.
I'M SORRY, I DON'T REALLY KNOW. THAT JUST SLIPPED OUT.
NAH, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I WAS JUST PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN HOW YOU THINK-- AND YEAH, I GUESS YOU COULD CHALK THAT UP TO "INTEREST," TOO.
I DON'T KNOW-- IS IT REALLY NECESSARY THAT I KEEP TRYING TO EXPLAIN MYSELF REGARDING THIS? I MEAN--
NOT SURE IF I'D SAY IT'S BECAUSE OF AN INTEREST, BUT...

SINCE I'M ONLY CONCERNED WITH FOLLOWING THE COMMANDER'S ORDERS --
--I SUPPOSE I AM SATISFIED WITH THE SITUATION AS LONG AS I COMPLETE THOSE ORDERS WITHOUT ANY DELAY OR HESITATION.
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S STILL A LITTLE SCAR THERE.
DID IT HURT?
FEELING PAIN, GIVEN THE INJURY, WAS A NORMAL EXPERIENCE, I BELIEVE.
HA-- THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT, SILLY!
IT MIGHT NOT HURT TO THINK AND ANSWER FOR YOURSELF EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

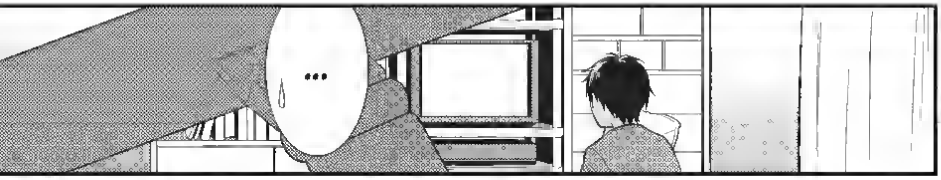
BUT AS LONG AS YOU'RE ACTUALLY FEELING YOUR OWN PAIN, I GUESS THINGS ARE OKAY.
YOU ARE, AFTER ALL, A ROOKIE, IN A WAY.

OH, RIGHT-- HOLD ON A SEC-LET ME GET WHAT I OWE YOU--
FORGET IT. THIS TIME, IT'S ON ME.
HERE YA GO.
MEAL TICKET CURRY ¥420
MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU NEVER JOINED US AT LUNCH, SO I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU. EVERYTHING OKAY?
JUST HAD SOME STUFF COME UP--
YEAH, 'S ALL RIGHT.
FINCH
IT'S ALL GOOD. YOU CAN JUST USE IT TOMORROW, ANYWAY.
RIGHT. THANKS AGAIN.

LIKE FIZZING POP ROCKS OR SOMETHING-- BUILDING UP LIKE FOAM COMING TO A HEAD--
LIKE A HAZE--
THAT'S BOTH THERE AND NOT.
THAT WAS A REALLY STRANGE FEELING.
WHOA.
A FEELING THAT I REMEMBER FROM SOMEWHERE.

HAHA HA HAHAHA HA HAHA!
WHAT! WHAT'S SO GODDAMNED FUNNY!
LOOK, JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'M NOT REALLY DOWN WITH THE WAY YOU GUYS IS HANDLIN' THINGS ANYMORE...
SO FUGGEDDIT; FROM NOW ON, COUNT ME OUT!
WHAT DO YOU WANT THEN, HUH? MONEY? IS IT MONEY?
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, MY WALLET'S FAT AN' HAPPY BESIDES, AS MUCH AS I HATE TO DO THINGS BY THE BAD-GUY BOOK...
YOU MORON. WHAT, YOU THINK THAT IN AN ORGANIZATION LIKE THIS YOU CAN JUST GO WALTZIN IN AND OUTTA HERE LIKE IT WAS SOME KINDA COUNTRY CLUB OR SOMETHIN'?
EVEN YOUNG PUNKS KNOW THAT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO GET OUT OF THE OPERATION. BUT I GUESS YOU THINK YOU'RE SPECIAL, HUH?
YOU WANNA GET OUT, IT'S *LIGHTS* OUT!
whip

saring
BLAM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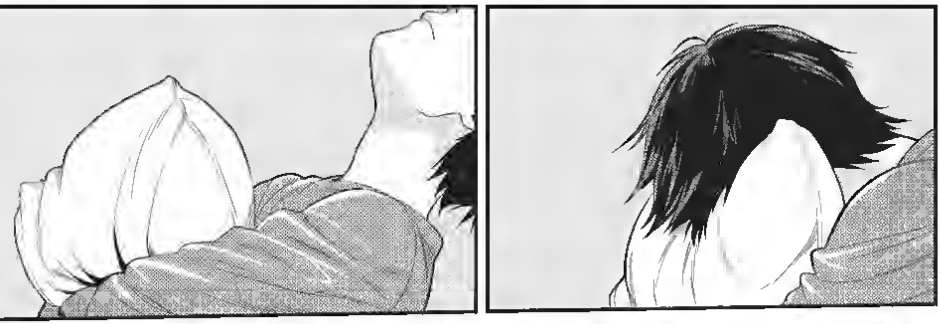


AND AT THIS POINT I DON'T THINK I CAN REALLY SAY, "YEAH GUYS, I'M OUTTA HERE, IT'S BEEN REAL," EITHER
IF I HAD JUST USED MY BRAIN, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OBVIOUS HOW BAD OF AN IDEA GETTING INVOLVED WITH THIS EVA BUSINESS COULD BE.
I JUST JUMPED RIGHT ON IN WITHOUT EVEN THINKING IT THROUGH. AWESOME JOB THERE, SHINJI.

ADDING ME NOW DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE—/ I MEAN, AT THIS POINT I'M NOT MUCH MORE THAN A FIFTH WHEEL.
BUT I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M REALLY CONTRIBUTING ANYTHING AT ALL RIGHT NOW. HECK, IT'S NOT LIKE THE OUTCOME WOULD HAVE BEEN ANY DIFFERENT IF I HADN'T BEEN THERE.
gulp
EVEN IF I WEREN'T AROUND—
WHAT MADE ME THINK THAT I COULD FIGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WAS I JUST CAUGHT UP IN THE MOMENT? GUILT OVER KAWORU GETTING HURT?
MAYBE TO GET AYANAMI'S ATTENTION?

IN THE END, IT WAS PROBABLY A MIXTURE OF SOME OR ALL OF THOSE.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE GETTING HURT IN FRONT OF ME...
WHAT WAS I THINKING?
REALLY, ALL I'M CAPABLE OF IS CLOSING MY EYES AGAINST STUFF THAT I DON'T WANT TO SEE.
ding dong
ding dong
WHO IN THE WORLD COULD THAT BE AT THIS HOUR?
ding dong
ding dong
ding dong
JESUS, ENOUGH AL-READY--
rise
OH YEAH, KAJI-SAN'S NOT HERE TODAY. ALMOST FORGOT.

COMING, DAMMIT!
WHO THE HELL COULD--
SWING
'SUP, MAN.
END

EIGHTH
EVENT

beep
GUESS JUICE SOUNDS ALL RIGHT.
clang
COME TO THINK OF IT--

-- I THINK IT WAS RIGHT HERE THAT I FIRST MET KAWORU-KUN AND THE REST.
I'M BACK--

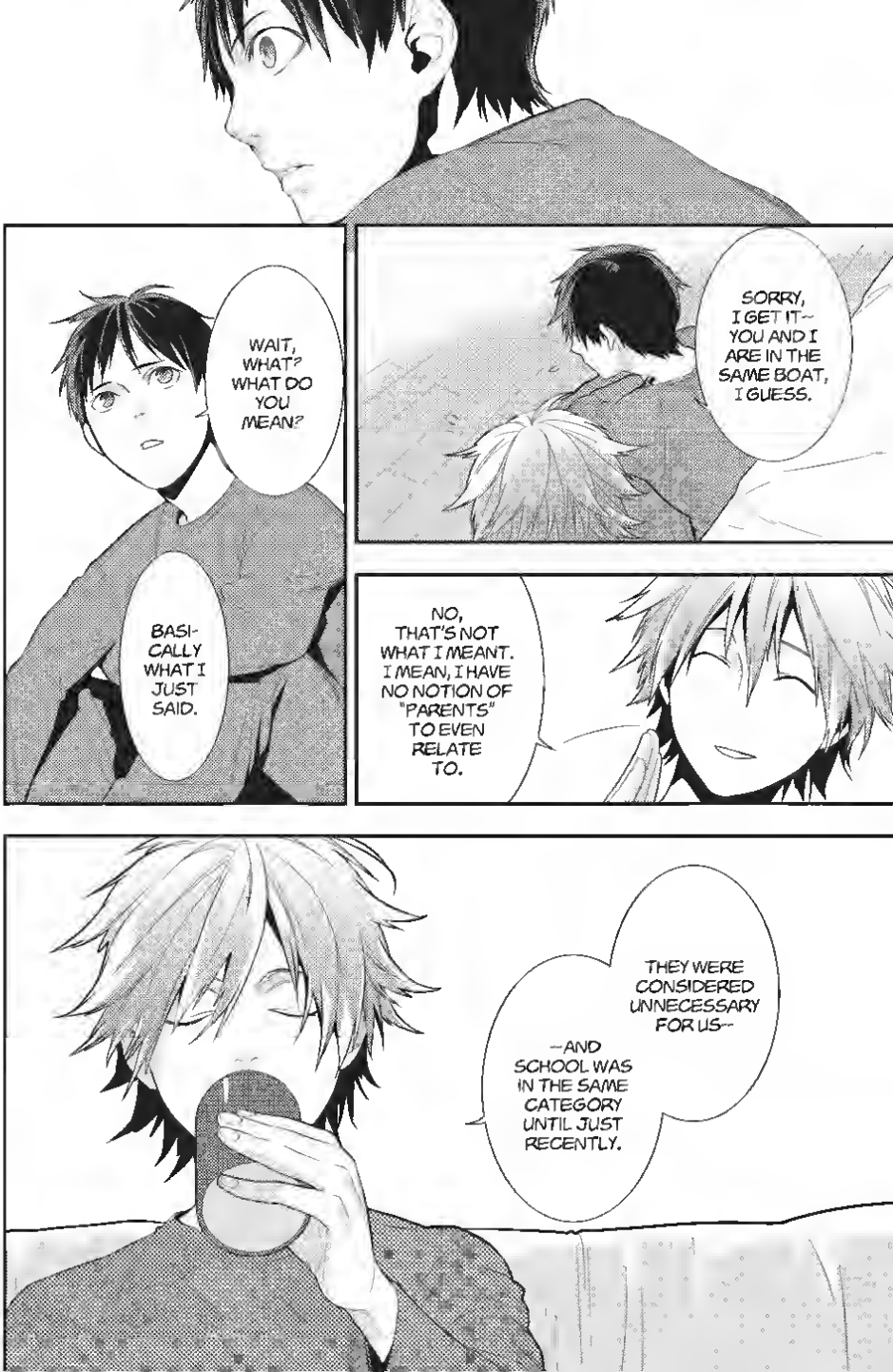
gloom
KAWORU-KUN, I GOT YOU SOME JUICE. HOPE THAT'S--
SWOOSH
OH, SORRY.
JUST SHOWING UP LIKE THAT-- WITHOUT EVEN BRINGING SOMETHING ALONG-- I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT, MAN--
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT-- I WASN'T REALLY UP TO ANYTHING, ANYWAY. HERE YOU GO, IF YOU WANT ONE.
SO, WHAT'S UP? SOMETHING HAPPEN?
IT'S ASUKA.

SHE SAID THAT BETWEEN CLOSE FRIENDS, IT'S KIND OF A GIVEN THING TO STAY AT EACH OTHER'S HOMES ON WEEKENDS AND STUFF.
HUH...
SHE'S PROBABLY RIGHT--CRASHING WITH FRIENDS IS PRETTY NORMAL, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE TO DO IT IF YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.
REAL-LY?
YOU CAN BE A HARD ONE TO READ SOMETIMES, KAWORU-KUN.
SO I AM WEIRD, AFTER ALL, HUH?
...
I GUESS I AM, THEN.
OH--
NO--
I MEAN, I GET IT--
BUT IT'S LIKE, I DON'T THINK IT'S BAD FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE ONE OR TWO WEIRD THINGS ABOUT THEM. IN FACT IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL.
CHIME IN WITH "YOU'RE NOT WEIRD AT ALL," ANYTIME HERE
AH --!!

SERIOUSLY, DUDE, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. ACTUALLY, I'M PRETTY HAPPY THAT YOU SHOWED UP TO HANG OUT WITH ME.
ポン pat pat ポン
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE A NAIVE, CHILDISH SIDE OF HIM.
huh?

NAH, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
OH-- SORRY ABOUT THAT.
THAT REMINDS ME...
MY MOM USED TO PAT ME LIKE THAT, TOO, BEFORE SHE DIED.

FOR HIM, WORK AND LIFE ARE THE SAME THING.
BUT--
AND MY DAD'S BEEN SO BUSY WITH WORK THAT IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN HIM.
WELL--
DO YOU GET LONELY?
NO NO NO-- THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT! I JUST WANTED TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE--YOU KNOW, I MEAN, PARENTS.
I KNOW THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING A LITTLE KID WOULD SAY BEFORE A TANTRUM. IT'S LAME.
WELL, YEAH, OF COURSE.


SORRY, I GET IT— YOU AND I ARE IN THE SAME BOAT, I GUESS.
WAIT, WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BASI-CALLY WHAT I JUST SAID.
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT. I MEAN, I HAVE NO NOTION OF "PARENTS" TO EVEN RELATE TO.
THEY WERE CONSIDERED UNNECESSARY FOR US—
—AND SCHOOL WAS IN THE SAME CATEGORY UNTIL JUST RECENTLY.

"INSIDE?"
--THE ONLY EDUCATION GIVEN TO US WAS THAT WHICH WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY.
WELL, WE WERE ALWAYS "INSIDE," SO--
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "UNNECESSARY"?
YEAH.
"INSIDE."
SO, IT'S THE SAME THING WITH ASUKA AND AYANAMI?
YEAH, PRETTY MUCH.
I THINK THAT ASUKA WENT TO SCHOOL FOR A BIT, THOUGH, BEFORE COMING TO JAPAN--NOT SURE, BUT . . .
WHAT IN THE WORLD WOULD BE THE PURPOSE OF--
Tap
コトン
BECAUSE, LIKE I SAID, IT WAS CONSIDERED UNNECESSARY.

"CON-
STRUC-
TED"...
...CHIL-
DREN...
"CON-
STRUCTED"
CHILDREN.
WE WERE
CREATED
WITH THE
SOLE
PURPOSE OF
STOPPING
THE
ANGELS.

THE CHILDREN OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE PRODUCTS OF ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION, FROM WOMBS NOT OF FLESH, BUT OF GLASS BEAKERS AND TEST TUBES.
SO, SUMMARILY, NO PARENTS.
AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO THIS IS ASUKA, WHOSE PARENTS ARE APPARENTLY FROM THE ORGANIZATION.
NO WAY-- THAT'S--
BUT, SERIOUSLY--
THAT'D MAKE YOU AN EXCEPTION AS WELL, SHINJI-KUN.

NO--
I'M NOT--
YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY ANYTHING.
I'M TOTALLY DIF--
YOU'RE LOST RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU, SHINJI-KUN? CONFUSED.
WHAT YOU'RE FEELING RIGHT NOW IS FEAR--
AND--

snatch
OF COURSE I'M SCARED! WHO WOULDN'T BE?!
I MEAN, PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY *DYING* OUT THERE!
WHO KNOWS-- EVEN I MIGHT END UP DEAD!
SO YOU CAN'T JUST ACT LIKE IT'S SOME--
...

I THINK YOU MIGHT BE MIS-UNDER-STAND-ING THINGS.

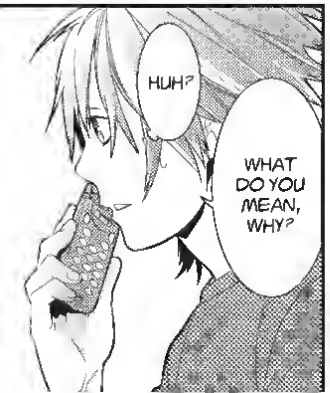
I THINK THAT ASUKA MENTIONED IT, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE ACTUALLY CHOSEN FOR THIS.
THIS JUST HAPPENED TO BE WHERE YOU ENDED UP, SINCE YOU WERE AT THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME.

WHY, THOUGH?
WHY ME?
THE ANGELS WERE ALREADY WELL AWARE OF YOUR EXISTENCE.
AND IT'S NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO FORCE YOU INTO DOING SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT, BUT YOU'RE IN TOO DEEP NOW FOR US TO GET YOU OUT OF IT, EVEN IF WE WANTED TO.

NO, I'M NOT.
AND IT'S NOT SOMETHING I REALLY THINK ABOUT.
clench
AREN'T YOU SCARED?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KAWORU-KUN?
THIS IS WEIRD.
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
OH, BUT LET ME GUESS— MAYBE YOU DON'T FEEL FEAR BECAUSE THAT'S "UNNECESSARY" OR SOME SHIT, RIGHT?
WHAT? HOW CAN YOU NOT? I MEAN, JUST A WHILE BACK YOU GOT YOUR ASS HANDED TO YOU!
I MEAN, IT'S BECAUSE IT'S SOMETHING I CHOSE MYSELF.
WHAT?
ring-ring

OH--
Oh--
SORRY, JUST A SEC.
HELLO?

WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU? WHY ARE YOU SKIPPING THE MEET-ING? HUH? WHAT? WELL?!
ゴアァ!!
roarr
roarr


HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHY?

I hope he's okay...
UM, I'M JUST OVER AT SHINJI-KUN'S HOUSE FOR--
HUH?! WHAT? WHY ON EARTH?
I THOUGHT I'D CHECK IN ON--
YOU HAVE TO BE KIDDING ME. WHY YOU, AND WHY NOW?

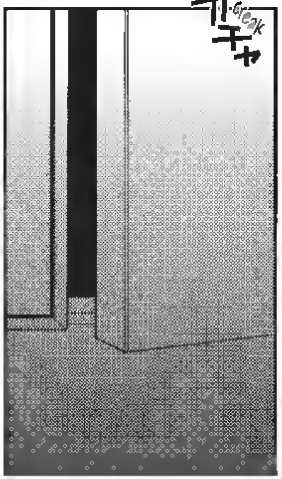
YOU MUST HAVE LOST IT! WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME WHY, WHEN--
--IT WAS YOU WHO SAID WE SHOULD JUST LEAVE HIM OUT OF THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WELL, I MEAN, I DID SAY THAT BUT--
HAND THE PHONE TO BAKA SHINJI FOR A SECOND.
SHINJI-KUN, ASUKA WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
UH, NO THANKS. I'LL PASS

WHAT SHE SAID IS TRUE, BUT...
WAIT, THEN...
THEN WHY DID I COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

NO. NOT NOW-- NO--
ASU--
SHE HUNG UP ON ME.
WHAT'D ASUKA WANT TO TALK TO YOU FOR?
LIKE, MAKING SURE ABOUT SHOWING UP TO SOME MEETING NEXT TIME, I GUESS?

NOTHING ELSE? JUST THAT?
SHE'S PRETTY SINCERE AND STRAIGHT ABOUT THINGS THOUGH, IN HER OWN WAY.
LISTENING ISN'T EVEN AN OPTION FOR HER ONCE SHE LAUNCHES INTO A TIRADE LIKE THAT.
HA HA--
OH-- THAT'S RIGHT.
KAWORU-KUN?
I GET IT-- IT'S JUST THAT I DIDN'T REALLY EXPECT THAT.
I'M THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO BE A LITTLE MORE SINCERE AND HONEST.

I--I'D--
--BE REALLY HAPPY IF YOU WERE TO FIGHT BESIDE ME.
OKAY, I AM GOING TO KEEP THIS AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE.
HOW-EVER...
YOU'RE FREE TO DO WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO.
I SHOULD HAVE JUST SAID IT LIKE THIS FROM THE GET-GO.


カチャ

END

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR
FORGIVE US
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FOR GIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM
THE EVIL ONE.
FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

NINTH EVENT

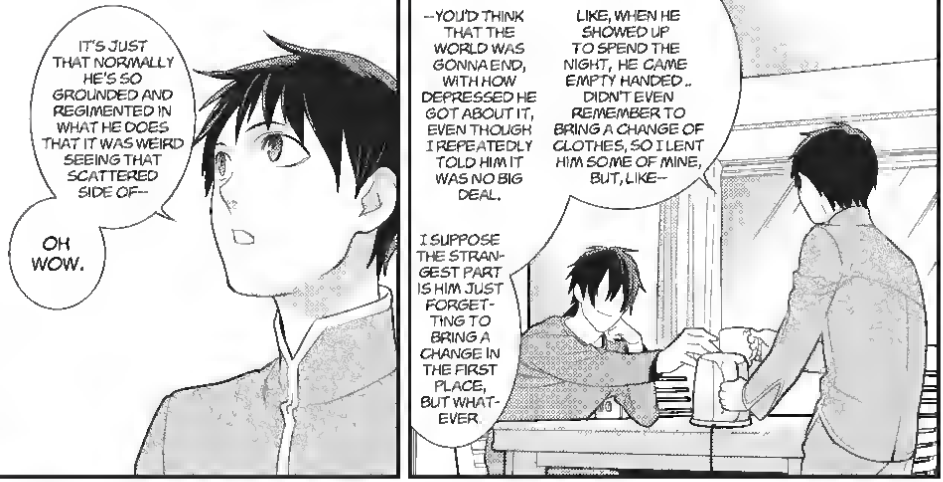
KAJI-SAN...
KAJI-SAN!

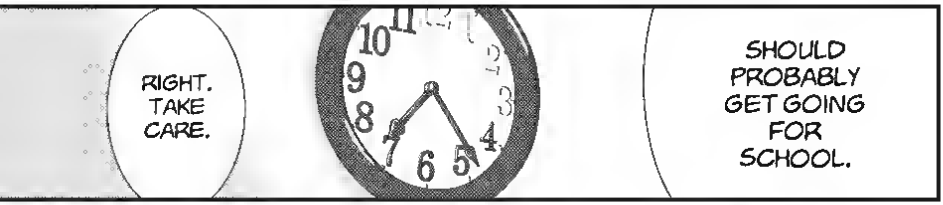
HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING NONSTOP SINCE LAST NIGHT?
DAMN-- YEAH. I GUESS I JUST PASSED OUT AT SOME POINT.

SHINJI-KUN?
IF YOU'RE GONNA SACK OUT, WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO YOUR BED?

I STILL HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE I GOTTA GO TO SCHOOL, SO WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO MAKE SOME COFFEE OR SOMETHING?
THAT'D BE NICE.
WHERE'S YOUR FRIEND?
SERIOUSLY? YOU WALKED RIGHT BY HIM COMING IN WHEN HE HEADED HOME.
OH. HUH.
SO, THAT FRIEND OF YOURS~
~NAGISA-KUN, RIGHT? WHAT KINDA GUY IS HE?
WOW, HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD.

SO WHAT KINDA GUY IS HE?
--I KINDA WONDERED IF YOU WERE OKAY WITH HAVING HIM HERE.
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE FRIENDS OVER THAT OFTEN, SHINJI-KUN, SO--
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "WHAT KINDA GUY"?
HE'S ALL RIGHT, I GUESS.
HE'S A PRETTY GOOD DUDE.
HE CAN BE WEIRD SOMETIMES, THOUGH.


IT'S JUST THAT NORMALLY HE'S SO GROUNDED AND REGIMENTED IN WHAT HE DOES THAT IT WAS WEIRD SEEING THAT SCATTERED SIDE OF--
OH WOW.
--YOU'D THINK THAT THE WORLD WAS GONNA END, WITH HOW DEPRESSED HE GOT ABOUT IT, EVEN THOUGH I REPEATEDLY TOLD HIM IT WAS NO BIG DEAL.
I SUPPOSE THE STRANGEST PART IS HIM JUST FORGETTING TO BRING A CHANGE IN THE FIRST PLACE, BUT WHATEVER.
LIKE, WHEN HE SHOWED UP TO SPEND THE NIGHT, HE CAME EMPTY HANDED.. DIDN'T EVEN REMEMBER TO BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, SO I LENT HIM SOME OF MINE, BUT, LIKE--


RIGHT. TAKE CARE.
SHOULD PROBABLY GET GOING FOR SCHOOL.

I SHOULD.
SHINJI-KUN.
YOU SHOULD HAVE YOUR FRIENDS OVER MORE OFTEN.

IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE I RECEIVED THAT LETTER FROM HEAVEN THAT SAID, "I WANT YOU TO TAKE OUR SON IN."
I LIKE WHAT I JUST SAW THERE.
IT USED TO BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONVERSATION WITH HIM BACK IN THE DAY.
--AND I HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP AS PURELY PROFESSIONAL-- SUBORDINATE AND SUPERIOR-- SO I HAD NO IDEA WHY ALL THIS WAS PUT ON ME
FROM SOMEONE THAT I THOUGHT WAS DEAD-- I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF HE'S ALIVE OR DEAD NOW-- CAME A LETTER--
IN ADDITION TO THE LETTER, THERE WERE OTHER DOCUMENTS, TELLING ME THE FACILITY WHERE SHINJI-KUN WAS LOCATED, AS WELL AS INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIS EDUCATIONAL PATH, INCLUDING ENROLLING HIM AT NERV ACADEMY ONCE HE WAS A MIDDLE SCHOOLER.
THAT, AND A CHECK FOR MORE THAN ENOUGH MONEY TO COVER ALL THE EXPENSES THAT WOULD BE INCURRED BY RAISING HIM.
I MEAN, JUST WHAT WAS HAPPENING AT THAT RESEARCH FACILITY, GETTING KIDS WRAPPED UP IN ISSUES THAT MOST ADULTS COULDN'T HANDLE-- HELL, THAT'D BE ENOUGH TO LAND A KID IN SOMEONE ELSE'S CARE.

I HADN'T SEEN HIM IN FIVE YEARS, AND THE ONCE-CHEERFUL FACE HAD BEEN WIPED CLEAN OF ALL EMOTION.
IF THE ONE WHO SENT THAT LETTER IS EVEN ALIVE, HE SHOULD SHOW HIS FACE.
THE ONLY SAVING GRACE IS THAT SHINJI-KUN WAS TOO GODDAMNED YOUNG TO REMEMBER ANYTHING THAT HAPPENED BACK THEN.
THAT TRAGEDY—

AFTER LEAVING THE ORGANIZATION, I BECAME A REGULAR SALARYMAN, AND IT WAS WHEN I TOOK IN SHINJI-KUN THAT I BECAME A JOURNALIST.
I'VE ENTERTAINED THE IDEA OF LOOKING FOR HIS FATHER--GENDO IKARI--IF HE'S EVEN ALIVE, WHICH... WHO KNOWS.
THAT LAB ISN'T AROUND ANYMORE, AND THE SURVIVORS HAVE ALL GONE THEIR SEPARATE WAYS, TRYING TO MAKE A NEW LIFE FOR THEMSELVES BY EXCISING ELEMENTS OF THAT TRAGIC PAST.
BUT--
BUT STILL--THAT KATSURAGI! WHY ON EARTH WOULD SHE BECOME A TEACHER?
--AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW IT IS IN MY CASE--

...I GUESS I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S STILL TRULY TIED TO WHAT HAPPENED.
I KNOW THAT IT'S NOT OVER. NOT REALLY OVER. YET...
AND--
--THAT YOUNG BOY, KAWORU NAGISA--
OF ALL THE EXPERIMENTAL SUBJECTS, HE WAS EASILY THE MOST GIFTED.
BUT, AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, HE WASN'T ON THE LIST OF SURVIVORS OF THAT INCIDENT.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M KAWORU NAGISA.
HE LOOKS SO FAMILIAR.
REALLY, THOUGH, I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE. MAYBE HE'S JUST REMINDING ME OF SOMEONE ELSE.

AYANAMI!

BUT--
THERE HAVE STILL BEEN ALL THESE EXPLOSIONS ...AND THE PEOPLE WHO'VE GONE MISSING...
I'M PROBABLY WORRIED ABOUT A BUNCH OF STUFF THAT ISN'T EVEN CONNECTED. JUST WORRIED...

GOOD MORNING. WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A RUSH, ANYWAY?
gasp!
I'M NOT-- I JUST DIDN'T THINK I'D RUN INTO YOU LIKE THIS, SO...
wheeze!

IKARI-KUN.
GOOD-- GOOD MORNING!

WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE TO STOP BY H.Q. TODAY, SO--
H.Q.? AS IN HEAD-QUARTERS? OF THE ORGANI-ZATION?
DO YOU GO THERE EVERY DAY? SOUNDS ROUGH.
HUH. OKAY...
MEH. NOT REALLY.
WHY'RE YOU SO EARLY TODAY?
OH--!! RIGHT!
I HAD HEARD THAT YOU LIVE PRETTY CLOSE TO ME, BUT SINCE I NEVER SEE YOU ON YOUR WAY TO SCHOOL, I WONDERED WHAT TIME YOU ACTUALLY HEAD OUT.
IS TODAY LIKE THE DAY YOU GET "OFF" OF GOING TO THE ORGANI-ZATION, OR SOMETHING?
I MEAN, NOT TRYING TO BE NOSY OR STALKERISH OR ANYTHING--BUT WAIT-- I GUESS THIS IS TECHNICALLY PRETTY NOSY--SO--UH--
JESUS, WHAT ON EARTH AM I SAYING?
IKARI-KUN.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? HAVE YOU DECIDED?
!

AYA-
NAMI--
ARE
YOU?
rumble
?!
flap
flap
flutter
ARE YOU
GOING TO
FIGHT?
OR ARE
YOU GOING
TO QUIT?

rrrumble
WHAT THE...
AN EARTH-QUAKE?
KYAAA!
LOOK OUT!

rumble
rumble
rumble
DID IT STOP?
huh?

IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE GETTING MORE AND MORE FREQUENT LATELY, THE EARTH-QUAKES
WHOA OMIGOD I'MSO SORRY OMG!!
WHOOOO-OOOA!
SCOOT
thump thump thump thump
WOW, SHE'S SKINNY.
reach
THANKS FOR PROTECT-ING ME...

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
SURE. NO PROB-LEM.
TIME?

SHE'S THAT SMALL AND THIN, AND YEAH, STILL MANAGES TO FIGHT LIKE NO OTHER.

IT'S SAID THAT THE CONSTANTLY INCREASING STRAIN ON AND WARPING OF THIS DIMENSION IS WHAT'S CAUSING THEM.

I MEAN, WOW-- SHE'S REALLY PETITE.

I MEAN, FIGHTING ALL THOSE OTHER-WORLDLY BEASTS, GETTING INJURED ALL THE TIME..
WHY CONTINUE TO FIGHT WITH ALL THAT HAPPENING NONSTOP?
AYANAMI-- DO YOU EVER GET SCARED?
I--

FOLLOWING MY CHAT WITH KAWORU-KUN, IT MADE ME CONSIDER SOMETHING:
--I HAVE NOTHING BUT FIGHTING.
THERE IS NOTHING OUTSIDE OF THAT FOR ME.
I HAVE A MEANINGLESS EXISTENCE IF I DO NOT FIGHT. A PERSON'S EXISTENCE IS JUSTIFIED BY HOW SHE'S DEFINED.

RIGHT.
JUST AS I SUSPECTED-- THE SAME.
WHY HAVE I, MYSELF, CHOSEN TO FIGHT?

THE FEAR OF PAIN AND GETTING INJURED.
THE FEAR OF LOSING WHAT'S IMPORTANT.
WELL-- SOME THINGS, YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO LOSE.
THERE'S REI, AND ASUKA...
... AND YOU, TOO, SHINJI-KUN.
WE ALL LIVE OUR LIVES, CARRYING ON, WHILE FEAR RESIDES IN US.
AND ONLY THE WILL OF THE STRONG CAN INVOKE THE POWER OF THE EVA.

AYANAMI.
PEOPLE OVERCOME THEIR FEARS, ONLY TO REALIZE THE SOURCE OF THEIR WILLS, THE PART THAT WINS, WAS ROOTED AND PROVOKED BY THOSE FEARS IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THEY'LL CONTINUE TO FIGHT, AND CONTINUE TO GET HURT IN THE PROCESS.
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, I CAN'T JUST SIT ON THE FENCE ANYMORE.
I'VE DECIDED THAT I WANT TO FIGHT, TOO.
I WILL NOT LOSE ALL THESE FRIENDS THAT I HOLD SO DEAR TO ME.
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO LAUGH ALONGSIDE YOU ALL, NOW AND FOREVER.

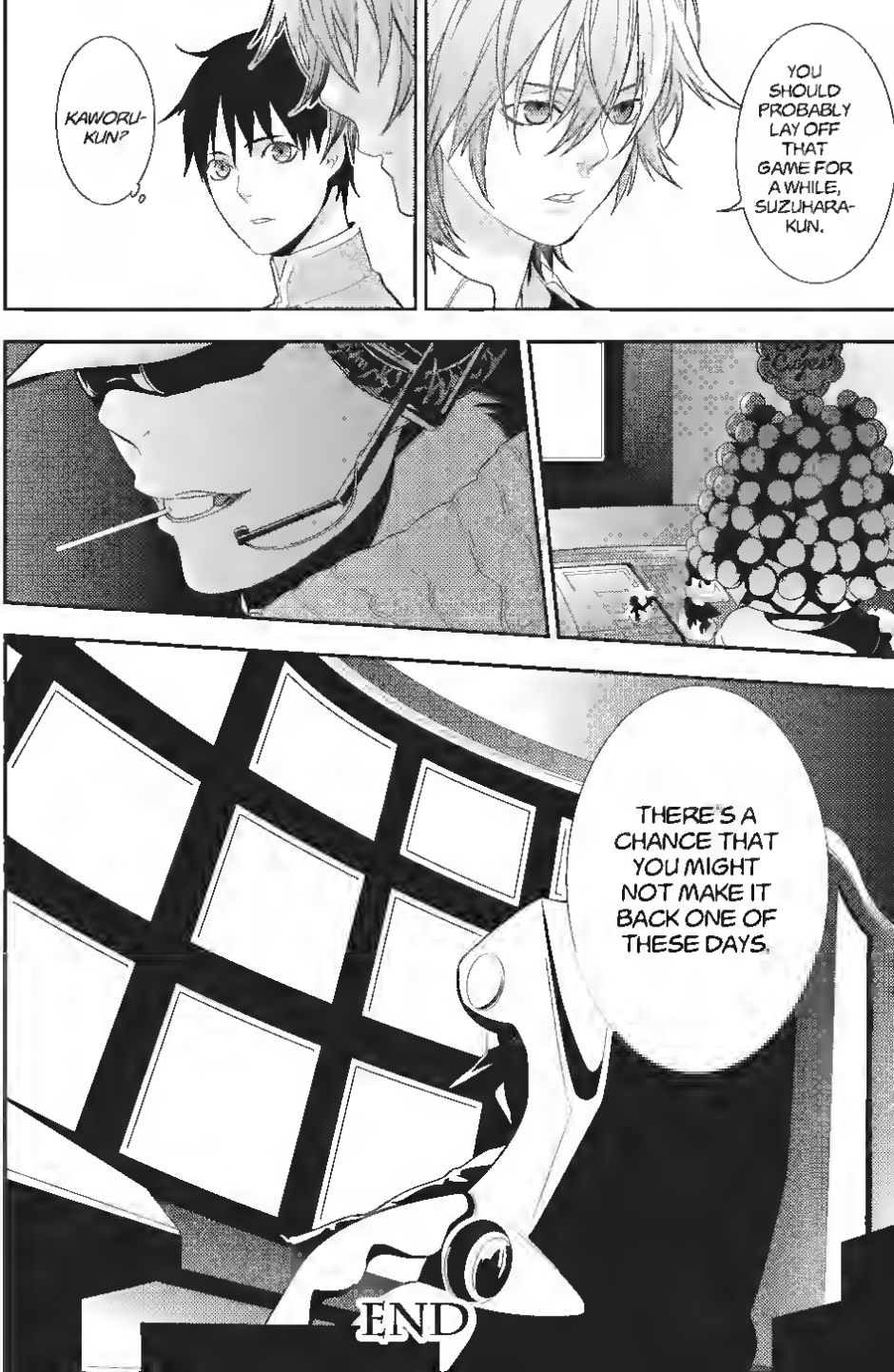
IN
THIS
WORLD--

TOJI.
YO, TOJI!
hahh?
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON SITTING AROUND LOOKING PUKEY, HUH? P.E. IS NEXT PERIOD--IT'S YOUR FAVORITE CLASS!
NAH, MAN, CAN'T GO. NO WAY.
STO-MACH HURTS JUST GONNA WATCH.
YOU'RE PROBABLY JUST PLAYING TOO MUCH OF THAT GODDAMNED GAME AND HAVEN'T SLEPT AT ALL. I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?
DUDE, IT'S P.E. WHO CARES.
LOOK AT KENSUKE-- THAT GUY SKIPS SCHOOL T' PLAY DA GAME ALL THE TIME. HE'S PROBABLY AT HOME DOIN' IT RIGHT NOW.
SKIPPING SCHOOL TO GAME?
I DUNNO, PROBABLY. WHADDEVER.

I THINK I UNDERSTOOD ABOUT HALF OF THAT...
SHINJI-KUN! SUZUHARA-KUN!
OH, HEY, KAWORU-KUN.
IF YOU DON'T GET MOVING, WE'LL ONLY HAVE LIKE A MINUTE TO CHANGE.
BUT HE'S SHROUDED IN DIS PITCH-BLACK MIST, RIGHT? STRENGTH, STATS, TOTALLY OP COMPARED T' MOST AVATARS YA FACIN' IN REGULAR PLAY.
AN' HE'S RUMORED T' HAVE SOME SUPER EPIC RARE ITEM ON 'IM, SO I HAD T' TRY AN' TAKE 'IM DOWN, Y'KNOW?
SEE, THING ABOUT IT IS, DA COMPANY, DEY SPRING DESE REAL RARE MOBS ON YA FROM DA SERVER SIDE, Y'KNOW? ONE A' DEM JUST BUSTED IN AN' STARTED MESSIN' ME UP.

grab
うわっ
ばぁっ
"Whoa!"
WHOA-- WHOA THERE! WHAT'RE YOU--
NAGISA! DUDE!! I NEED YOU! YOU CAN TOTALLY ONE-SHOT THAT SUCKA! PLEASE, MAN, HELP ME OUT!

He's waaaay too into this
NAH, IT'S JUST THAT I'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR SO LONG, I BASICALLY GOT SICK OF IT.
WHA-AAAAT!?
YOU PROGRESS TO THE LEVEL OF FALLEN ANGEL AND YOU JUST GIVE UP?! WHAT A FREAKIN' WASTE!
Oh--
YEAH, I QUIT PLAYING.
HE'S TALKING ABOUT THAT JACKED-UP ONLINE GAME, APO... APOWHAT-EVERITIS.
UH, LIKE--
PIEEEEEE!


KAWORU-KUN?
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LAY OFF THAT GAME FOR A WHILE, SUZUHARA-KUN.
THERE'S A CHANCE THAT YOU MIGHT NOT MAKE IT BACK ONE OF THESE DAYS.
END

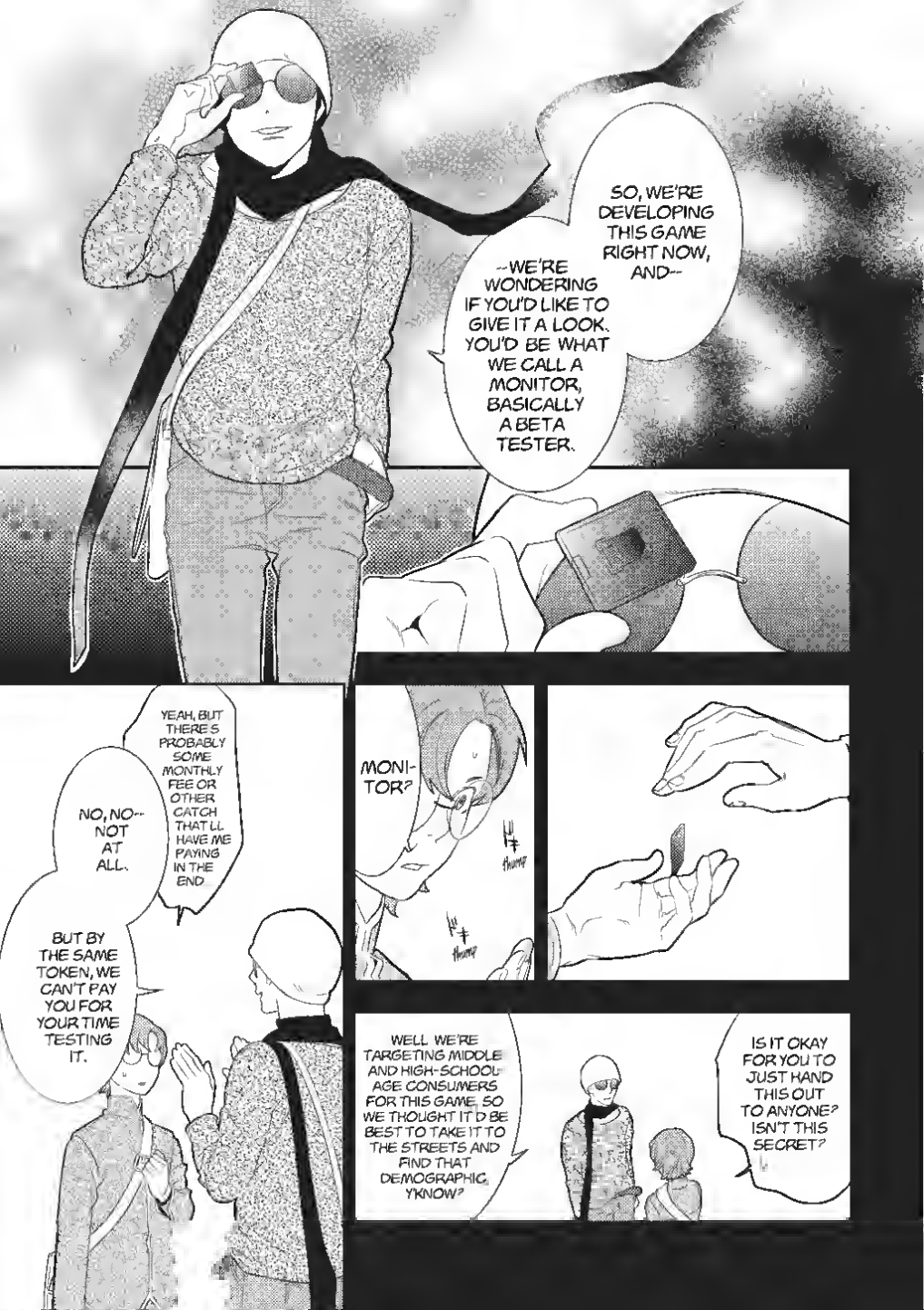
OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR DAILY BREAD.
AND
FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS,
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM
THE EVIL ONE.
FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

TENTH EVENT

ABOUT ONE MONTH EARLIER..
HEY YOU. YOU THERE.
30分 300円
P 有料

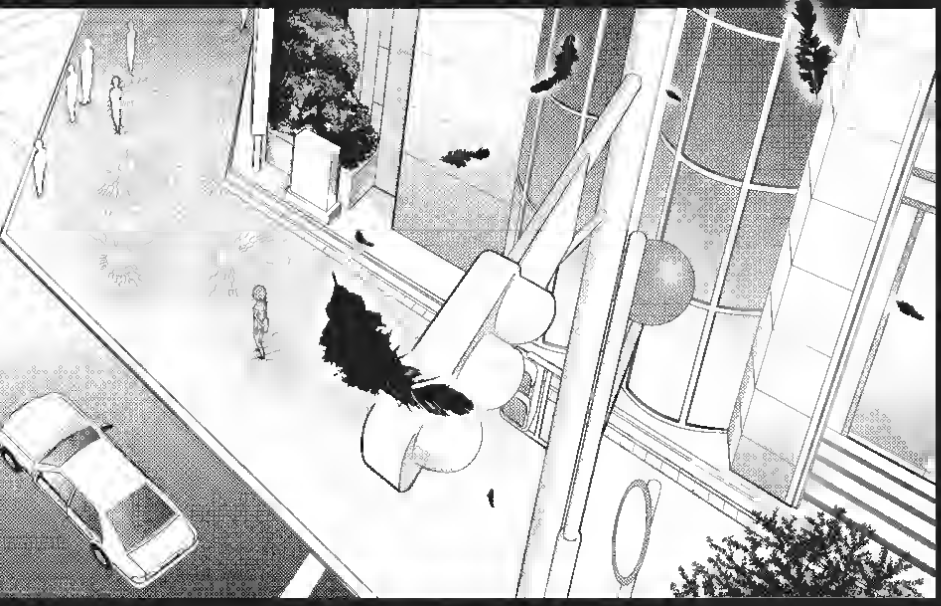
UH-- WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SORRY ABOUT THAT-- I'M NOT A WEIRDO OR ANY-THING.
OH, RIGHT-- HERE'S MY CARD.
YOU MIGHT BE FAMILIAR WITH US
YOU INTO GAMES?

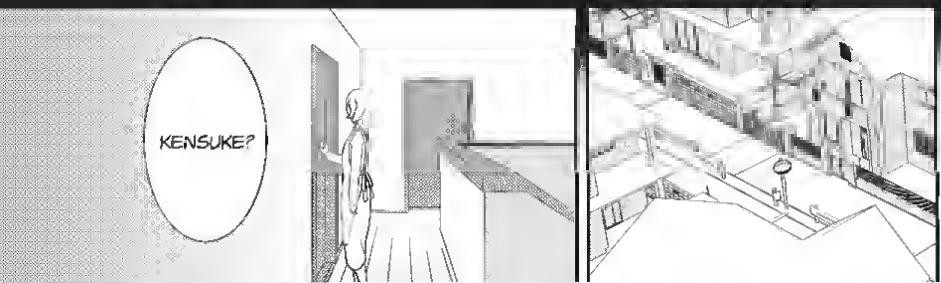
THAT GNX? THE GNX CORP., THE GAME COMPANY?
YEAH, YEAH, THAT GNX.
MIMORI, FROM GNX CORP.--?
WAIT--
HA-- THAT MAKES ME HAPPY TO HEAR.
AND EVEN THE NEWEST ONE THAT JUST CAME OUT.
OH MAN! I PLAYED ALL OF THE "CLAIMER DREAMER" SERIES! ALL OF THEM!
SORRY FOR JUST ASKING YOU THIS, HAVING JUST MET YOU AND ALL. BUT I'D LIKE TO ASK A BIG FAVOR.
YEAH, IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO-- YEAH! TOTALLY!
THAT'S FANTASTIC. WE'RE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE LIKE YOU.


SO, WE'RE DEVELOPING THIS GAME RIGHT NOW, AND--
--WE'RE WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE IT A LOOK. YOU'D BE WHAT WE CALL A MONITOR, BASICALLY A BETA TESTER.
MONI-TOR?
thump
thump
WELL WE'RE TARGETING MIDDLE AND HIGH-SCHOOL-AGE CONSUMERS FOR THIS GAME, SO WE THOUGHT IT'D BE BEST TO TAKE IT TO THE STREETS AND FIND THAT DEMOGRAPHIC, YKNOW?
IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO JUST HAND THIS OUT TO ANYONE? ISN'T THIS SECRET?
YEAH, BUT THERE'S PROBABLY SOME MONTHLY FEE OR OTHER CATCH THAT'LL HAVE ME PAYING IN THE END.
NO, NO-- NOT AT ALL.
BUT BY THE SAME TOKEN, WE CAN'T PAY YOU FOR YOUR TIME TESTING IT.

AND WE'RE LOOKING TO GET AS MUCH DATA AS POSSIBLE, SO PASS IT AROUND TO YOUR FRIENDS AND LET US KNOW WHAT THEY THINK, TOO.
BUT, THEN THEY'D KNOW WHO PASSED IT AROUND, AND THE TEST-MARKET THING WOULD BE KNOWN, AND--
NO, NOT REALLY. OKAY, FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD INSTALL IT ON ALL THE COMPUTERS AT SCHOOL, AND THEN NO ONE WOULD KNOW, AND IT'D BE EASY FOR US TO RETRIEVE THE DATA, TOO.
THOSE COMPUTERS ARE MOST LIKELY CONNECTED VIA L.A.N, SO-- YOU GET WHAT I AM SAYING?
YEAH, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THAT.
AWESOME. THAT'S GREAT TO HEAR. COUNTIN' ON IT, THEN.
SURE THING, WILL DO!
SO, THEN, JUST SEND THE PLAY DATA YOU'VE ACCUMULATED WEEKLY TO THAT ADDRESS ON THE CARD. NICE TO MEET YOU, KID.
OH, ON THAT NOTE, I NEED TO GIVE YOU MY CONTACT INFOR--
OH..

I GUESS I CAN JUST GIVE IT TO HIM NEXT TIME.
WHA--?
He's gone.



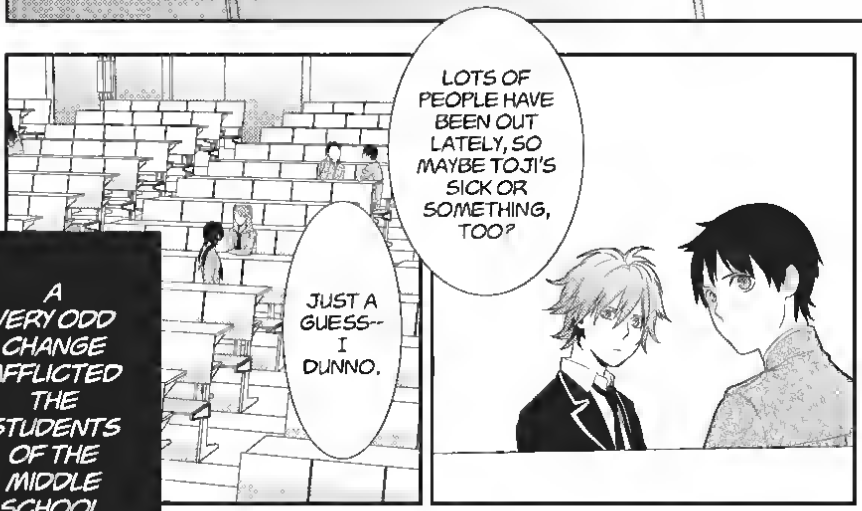

KENSUKE?

KENSUKE, IT'S TIME TO EAT.

NURSE'S OFFICE

ALL RIGHT. OKAY... UNDER-STOOD.
REALLY? HE'S STILL NOT--
HOW ARE THEY, RITSUKO?
TAKE CARE.
カチャッ click
NONE OF THE KIDS SEEM TO HAVE ANYTHING WRONG WITH THEM, BUT THE CONDITION PERSISTS.

I MEAN, THERE'S NOTHING THAT'D DIFFERENTIATE THEM FROM JUST BEING IN A STATE OF NATURAL DEEP SLEEP.



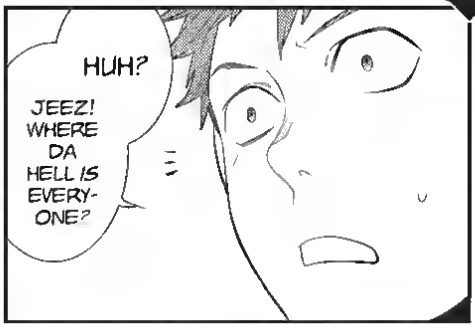
A VERY ODD CHANGE AFFLICTED THE STUDENTS OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

AND THEN, HERE AND THERE, STUDENTS BEGAN TO PASS OUT AND COLLAPSE.
IT WAS SOMETHING THAT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN READILY IDENTIFIABLE. AT FIRST, IT JUST SEEMED THAT AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF KIDS WERE SLEEPING IN CLASS, AND NOTHING MORE.
"APOCALYPSE OF NIGHT."
VERY STRANGE THINGS BEGAN TO HAPPEN TO KIDS ONCE THEY STARTED TO PLAY THAT GAME.
THAT DAY--
--WHEN KAWORU-KUN SAID THAT TO TOJI, IT MEANT--
THERE'S A CHANCE THAT YOU MIGHT NOT MAKE IT BACK ONE OF THESE DAYS,
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LAY OFF THAT GAME FOR A WHILE, SUZUHARA-KUN.

--THAT AFTER ALL--
-- IT WAS AN ANGEL?
THERE'S NO WAY TO CONFIRM THAT ABSO-LUTELY, BUT..
HIKARI?
Hey there--
HIKARI, DID YOU HEAR?
HUH? OH... YEAH.
YOU MUST BE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT SUZUHARA.
WH--
WHY'D YOU STOP THERE? I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT ONLY SUZUHARA!
AS THE CLASS REP, I AM EQUALLY WORRIED ABOUT ALL MY GREAT CLASS-MATES!
OKAY, WELL, WHATEVER YOU SAY, THEN.

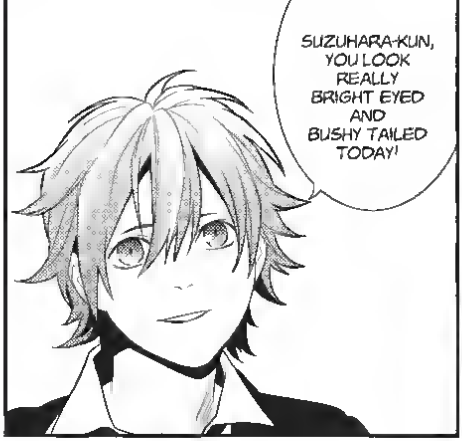
...AAAAAAE!!!
SA...
BANG

WHA-- YOU SERIOUS? ALL THESE PEOPLE REALLY SICK?
WOW-- I FIGURED THAT WHATEVER IS MAKING EVERYONE SICK HAD GOTTEN TO YOU, TOO, TOJI!
WHAT IS DIS, SARS 2, DA REVENGE?


HUH?
JEEZ! WHERE DA HELL IS EVERY-ONE?

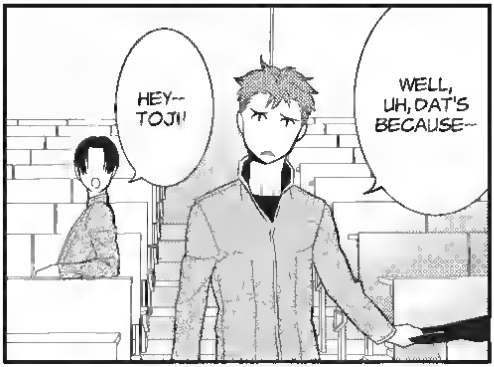
Oh!
SUZU-HARA!

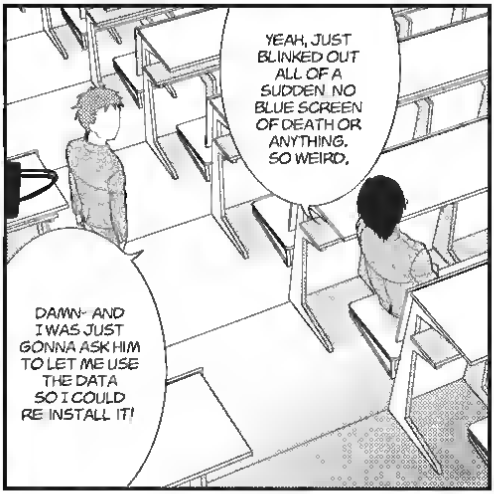
TOJI!


SUZUHARA-KUN, YOU LOOK REALLY BRIGHT EYED AND BUSHY TAILED TODAY!

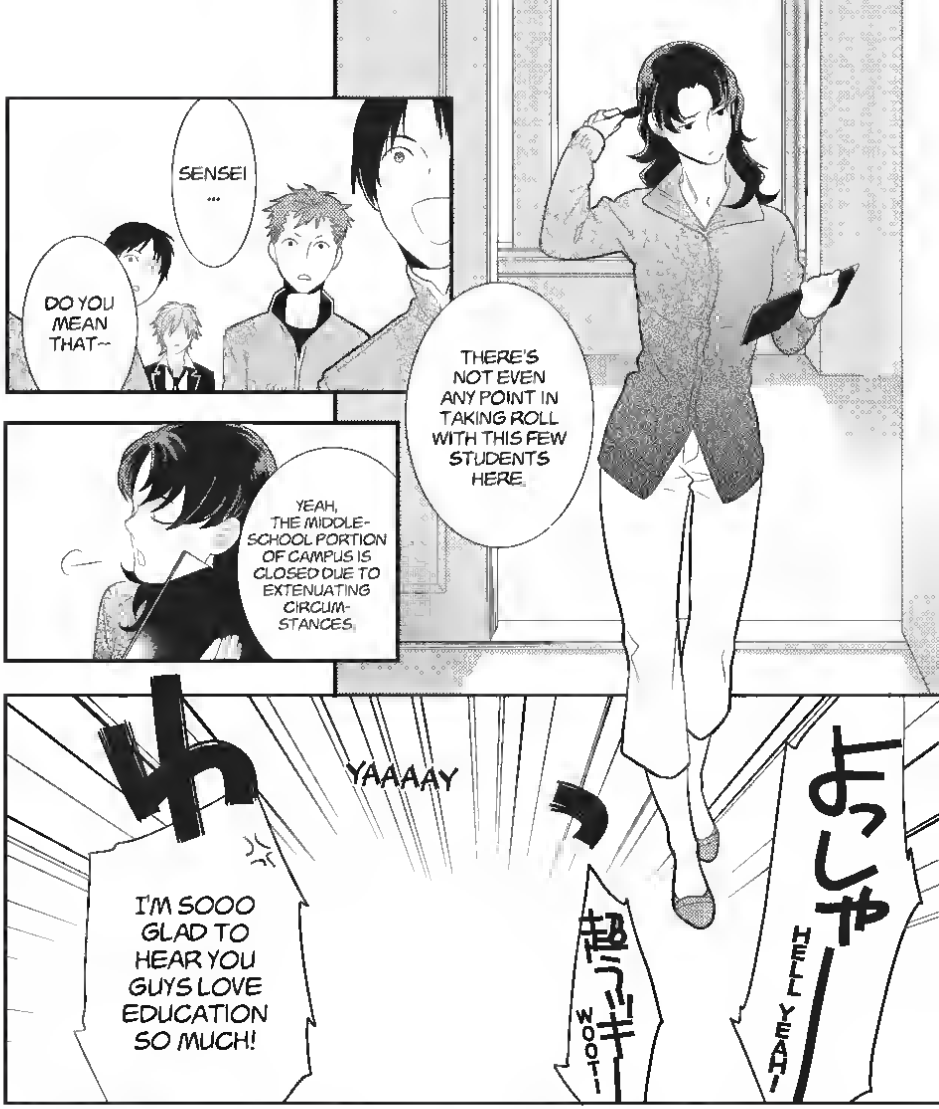
NO ONE~
~REALLY KNOWS.

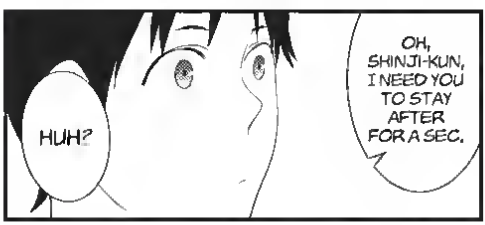
YOU STILL HAVE ANY DATA FROM "APOCALYPSE OF NIGHT" LEFT?
NAH, MAN. MY P.C. UP AN' DIED ON ME. LEMME GUESS-- YOU TOO?


HEY-- TOJI!
WELL, UH, DAT'S BECAUSE--


YEAH, JUST BLINKED OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN. NO BLUE SCREEN OF DEATH OR ANYTHING. SO WEIRD.
DAMN- AND I WAS JUST GONNA ASK HIM TO LET ME USE THE DATA SO I COULD RE-INSTALL IT!

PROBABLY NOT GONNA HAPPEN-- EVERYONE ELSE THAT HAD ONE HAD BASICALLY THE SAME THING HAPPEN TO THEM, THEIR PC'S JUST DIED ON THEM, AND--
--ALL THE DATA ON THE SCHOOL'S COMPS GOT FRAGGED SOMEHOW, TOO.
MUST HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF MALWARE, THEN. BUT, I MEAN, IT WAS A PRETTY FREAKY GAME TO BEGIN WITH.
WHAT THE HECK WAS IT DOING ON EVERY SCHOOL COMPUTER, ANYWAY?
MAYBE THE REASON WHY KAWORU WAS PLAYING THE GAME WAS--
KAWORU-KUN, WOULD YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?
I JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FASTER TO GET EVERYONE TO QUIT IF I JUST WENT STRAIGHT TO THE ROOT AND STOPPED IT THERE.
BUT THERE'S STILL ONE THING THAT I CAN'T FIGURE OUT--
MORNING, EVERYONE!
WOW, OUR CLASSROOM'S A GHOST TOWN TODAY--


SENSEI ...
DO YOU MEAN THAT--
THERE'S NOT EVEN ANY POINT IN TAKING ROLL WITH THIS FEW STUDENTS HERE.
YEAH, THE MIDDLE-SCHOOL PORTION OF CAMPUS IS CLOSED DUE TO EXTENUATING CIRCUM-STANCES.
わ
YAAAAY
I'M SOOO GLAD TO HEAR YOU GUYS LOVE EDUCATION SO MUCH!
超うれしい
WOOT!
よっしゃ
HELL YEAH!


HUH?
OH, SHINJI-KUN, I NEED YOU TO STAY AFTER FOR A SEC.

chat
MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAD TO THAT PLACE YOU KNOW THAT ONE THAT
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT
WANNA STOP SOMEWHERE ON THE WAY HOME?
...
chat
AND TO THINK I'D RAN IT GET HERE ON TIME!
...
TIME TO GO HOME AND TAKE A NAP!

OKAY GUYS, NO SCREWING AROUND. JUST HEAD STRAIGHT HOME, PLEASE.

SORRY TO PUT YOU OUT, BUT WOULD YOU TWO MIND CHECKING ON KENSUKE AIDA FOR ME?

HE'S BEEN OUT SICK A LONG TIME NOW, SO IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND..?
...

HEY, SUZUHARA--
CLASS REP, HOLD UP A SEC.

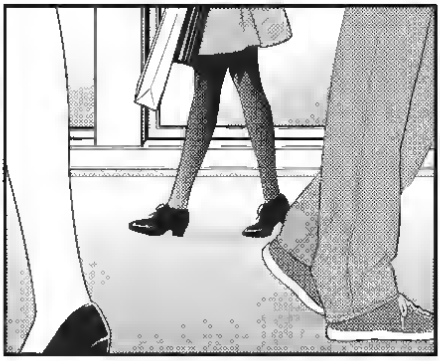
SENSEI, ALL OF THIS IS JUST A LITTLE TOO STRANGE.
WHAT'S WRONG, CLASS REP?

I MEAN, EVERYONE SIMUL-TANEOUSLY GETTING THE SLEEPING SICKNESS LIKE THIS. SOMETHING'S WRONG.
LIKE, YUKO AND MANA-- THEY WERE NEVER EVEN INTO GAMES, BUT NOW, ALL OF A SUDDEN, THEY'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT.
MAYBE THEY'RE NOT ACTUALLY SICK, BUT IT'S SOMETHING ELSE?
HIKARI ..
LOOK, CLASS REP...
I'M TELLING YA, IT'S ALL GOOD!
LOOK AT ME! ALL I NEEDED WAS A LITTLE SHUTEYE, AN' IT'S TOP A' DA WORLD, MA!
THEM GETTING SICK JUST HAPPENED T', UH, HAPPEN AT THE SAME TIME-- I'M TELLIN' YA, YOUSE WORRYIN' TOO MUCH!
SUZU-HARA!

OW, SENSE!-- YOU'RE MESSIN' UP MY DO!
WHAT A SWELL GUY! WHAT A HERO!
SUZUHARA!
Shove
CHECK OUT SUZUHARA-- THE MAN! THE LEGEND! THE STALLION!
WHOA!
HUH?
ASUKA, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
--YOU BETTER WATCH OVER AND PROTECT HIKARI, GOT IT?
WHATEVER MIGHT HAPPEN FROM HERE ON OUT--
ASUKA ..
I'M DEAD SERIOUS! JUST NOD AND OBEY.

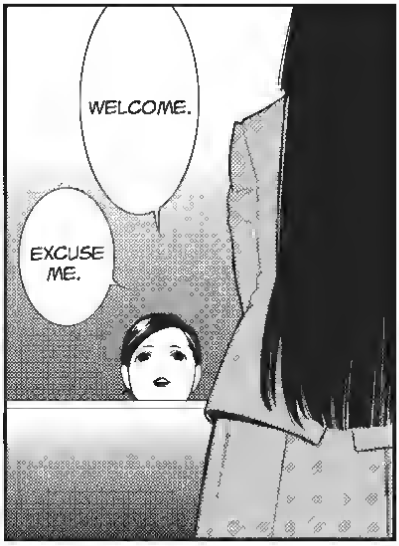
ALL RIGHT THEN--
Pause
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
GO? GO WHERE?
OKAY, WE SHOULD GET GOING.
HUH?
NERV HEAD-QUARTERS!

GNX

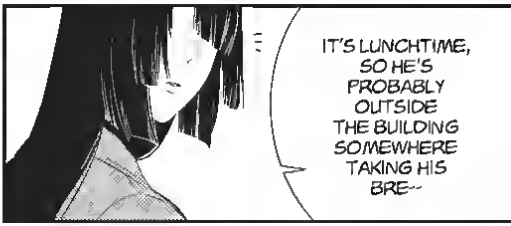


GNX

I'M A RELATIVE OF MR. MIMORI, WHO WORKS IN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT #2, AND I'M AFRAID SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED IN THE FAMILY. WHERE MIGHT I FIND HIM?
LET ME FIND THAT INFORMATION.
GNX


WELCOME.
EXCUSE ME.

HE'S RIGHT OVER THERE.


IT'S LUNCHTIME, SO HE'S PROBABLY OUTSIDE THE BUILDING SOMEWHERE TAKING HIS BRE--

AH, OKAY; NEVER MIND THEN.
WHA--?

YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HANGING LIKE THIS.
YOU'VE REALLY BEEN HOLED UP, WORKING HARD AROUND THE CLOCK-- GOT SOMETHING TO DO WITH SOME NEW BIG PROPERTY?

IT'S REALLY NOT ANYTHING COMPLETELY EPIC.
JUST A SMALL GAME THAT'S CURRENTLY IN TEST MARKETING, AND NOT EVEN AT A LEVEL THAT'S READY TO BE PREVIEWED.
BIG BROTHER, WAKE UP!
WHA--?
BROTHER!

I WAS JUST IN THE AREA. ♡
WHA--
YOU!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THAT'S PRETTY HARSH! YOUR ADORABLE LITTLE SISTER THOUGHT SHE'D STOP BY, AND THAT'S THE WAY YOU TREAT HER?

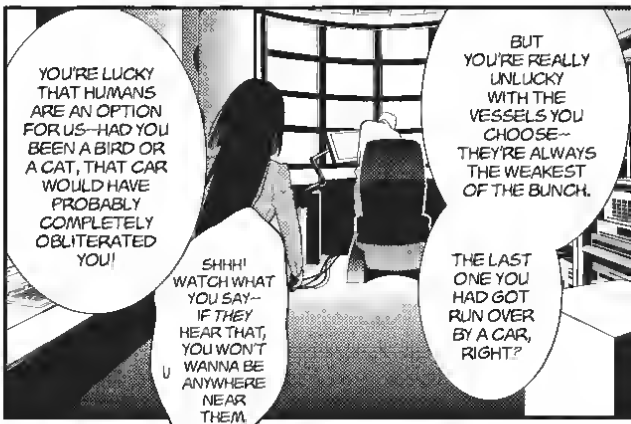
WHOA~ WAIT UP~
GET OVER HERE NOW!
Aw, come on...
I HAD NO IDEA THIS GUY HAD SUCH A PRETTY LITTLE SISTER!
GRRRRRRR...
HELLO!
YOU'RE WEARING THE SCHOOL UNIFORM OF THE SIERRA GIRLS' SCHOOL, AREN'T YOU?
HELLO THERE, YOUNG LADY.
The hell..?
I KNOW MY BIG BROTHER CAN BE A TWERP SOMETIMES, YOU MUST BE REALLY PATIENT!
HE HAVE A SISTER COMPLEX OR SOME THING?
WOW, YOU HAVE YOUR OWN OFFICE, TOO?

I'M THE REALLY SMART KID WHO ALWAYS GETS SICK, SO THEY DON'T GIVE ME ANY TROUBLE ABOUT IT.
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU WEREN'T HAVING ANY PROBLEMS, SO I THOUGHT I'D COME BY AND CHECK IN.
NO ONE ASKED YOU TO DO THAT--
OH, SO THAT'S THE SCENARIO YOU CONCOCTED THIS TIME, HUH?

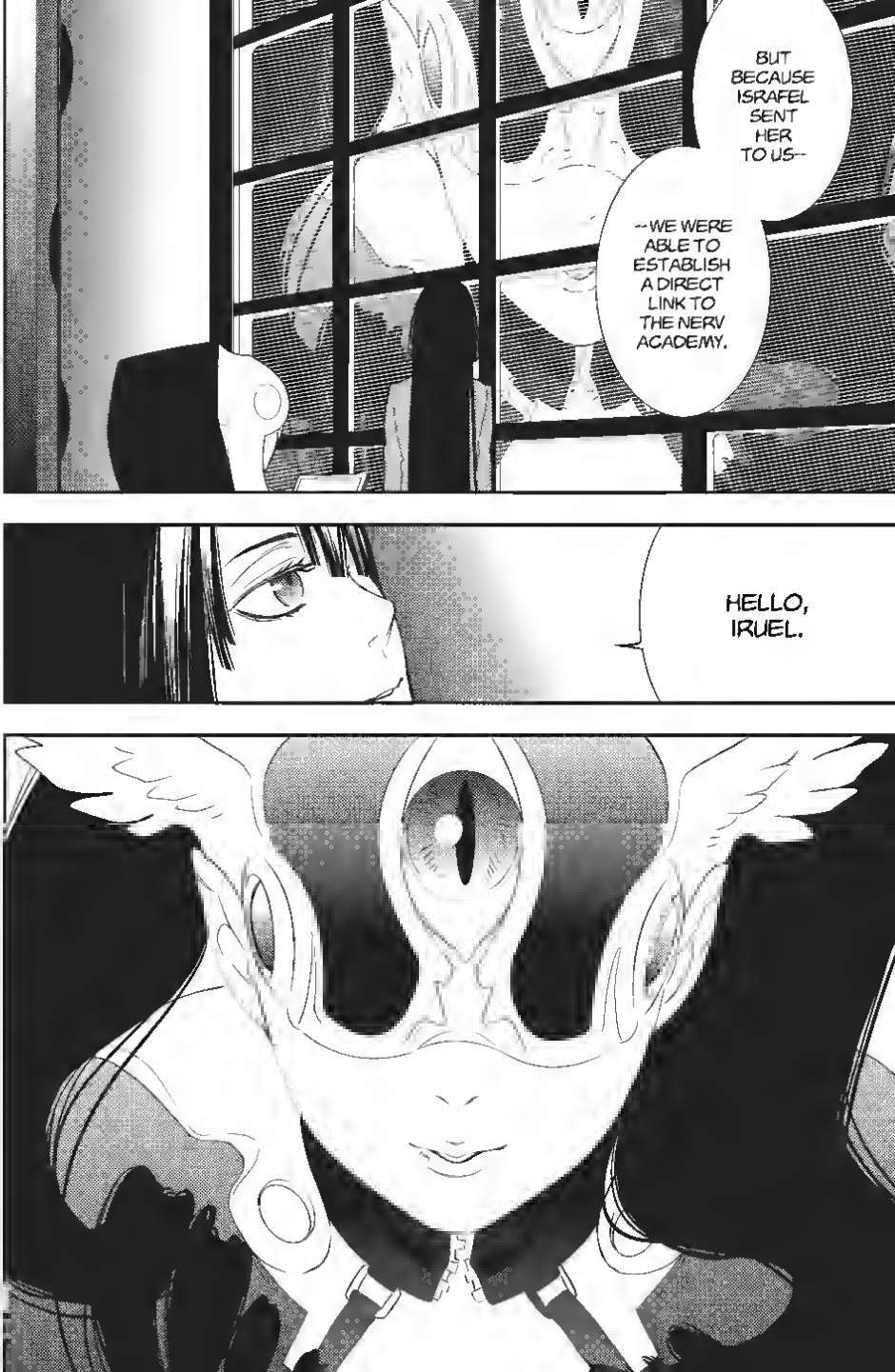
GET REAL. "BIG BROTHER/ LITTLE SISTER"? DOES IT LOOK LIKE ISRAFEL'S HERE, HUH?

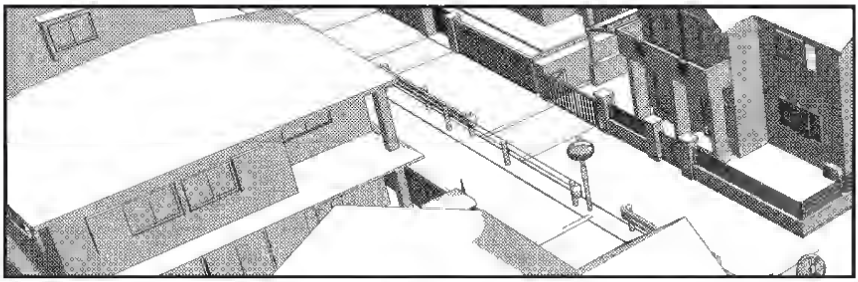
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, SHAMSHEL? YOU'RE A "STUDENT" AND SHOULD BE IN CLASS RIGHT NOW!

WHAT'S LELIEL UP TO? HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AROUND MUCH LATELY.
NO IDEA.

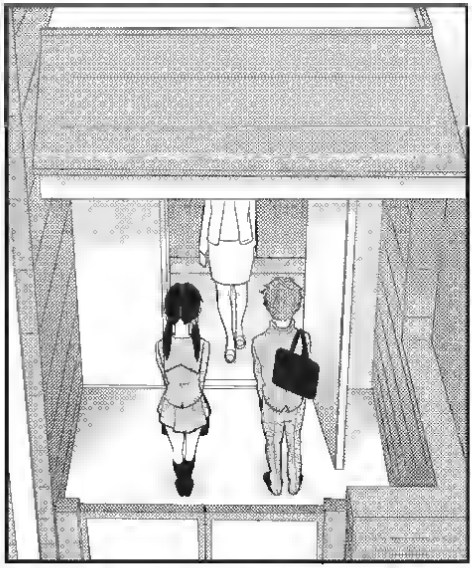

YOU'RE LUCKY THAT HUMANS ARE AN OPTION FOR US--HAD YOU BEEN A BIRD OR A CAT, THAT CAR WOULD HAVE PROBABLY COMPLETELY OBLITERATED YOU!
BUT YOU'RE REALLY UNLUCKY WITH THE VESSELS YOU CHOOSE-- THEY'RE ALWAYS THE WEAKEST OF THE BUNCH.
SHHH! WATCH WHAT YOU SAY-- IF THEY HEAR THAT, YOU WON'T WANNA BE ANYWHERE NEAR THEM.
THE LAST ONE YOU HAD GOT RUN OVER BY A CAR, RIGHT?

POWER-HUNGRY?! THE REASON I AM WHERE I AM IS BECAUSE OF THIS KIND OF THING!
SAME DEAL.
PERFECT THAT A POWER-HUNGRY GUY LIKE YOU CAN BRING THIS PARTICULAR SKILL TO THE TABLE.
OH, C'MON-- YOU'RE THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE JOB, A PERFECT FIT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WITH ALL THE MICROMANAGING THAT HE DOES WITH PEOPLE, IT FIGURES THAT YOU NEVER SEE HIM OUT ACTUALLY DOING ANYTHING. HMMPH.
CAN'T BELIEVE THIS SHIT SOME-TIMES.
RIGHT, RIGHT-- I OUGHTA JUST PIPE DOWN AND GET TO WORK.
ANYWAY, LET'S GET GOING-- HURRY UP AND LET ME MEET THE GIRL.
...
BUT ANYWAY, ALL I DID FOR HER WAS GIVE HER A PLACE AND A BODY.
VRRMMM

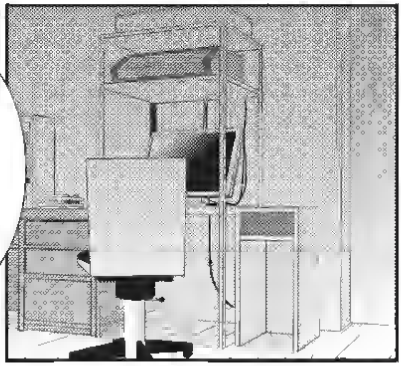

BUT BECAUSE ISRAFEL SENT HER TO US--
--WE WERE ABLE TO ESTABLISH A DIRECT LINK TO THE NERV ACADEMY.
HELLO, IRUEL.



THE INVASION HAS ALREADY BEGUN.



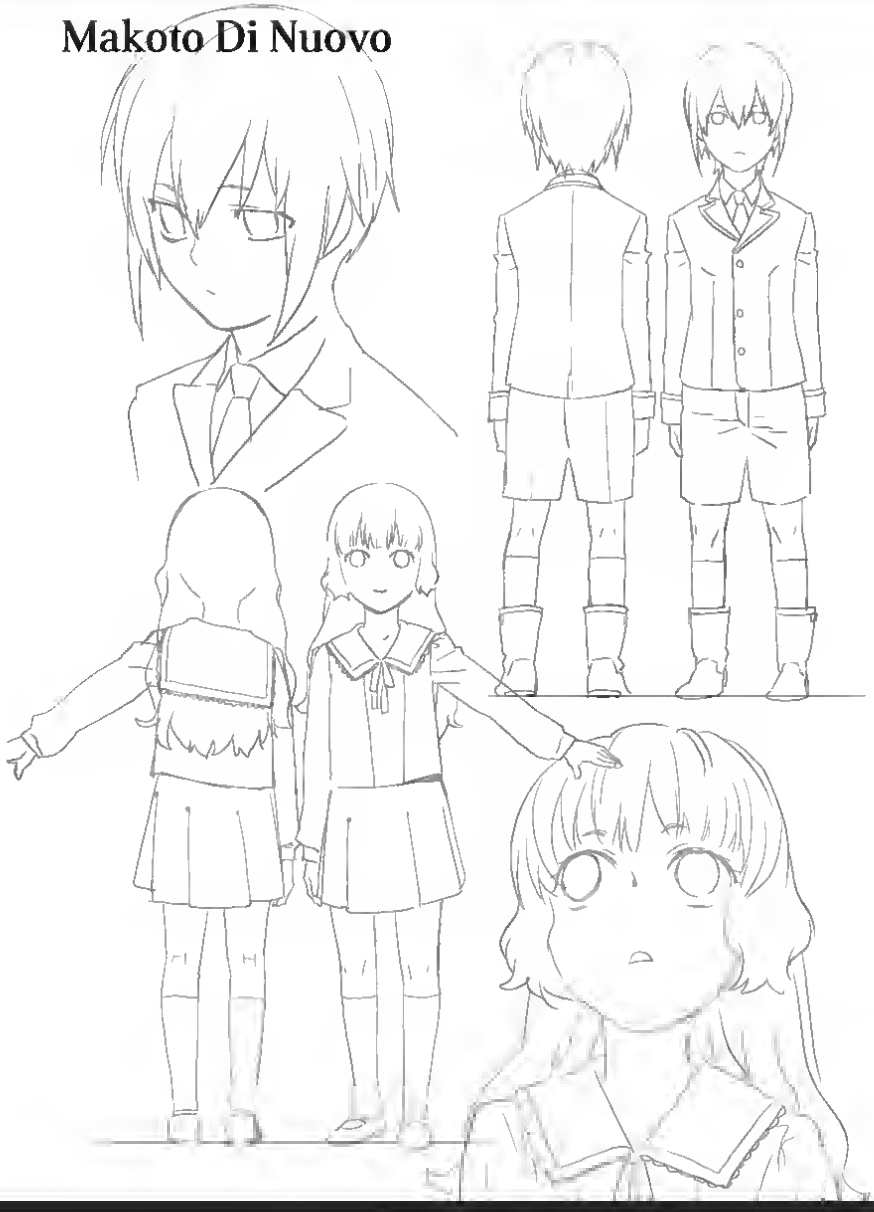
WE CAN'T DO MUCH MORE--



END

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR DAILY BREAD.
FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS,
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM
THE EVIL ONE.
FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

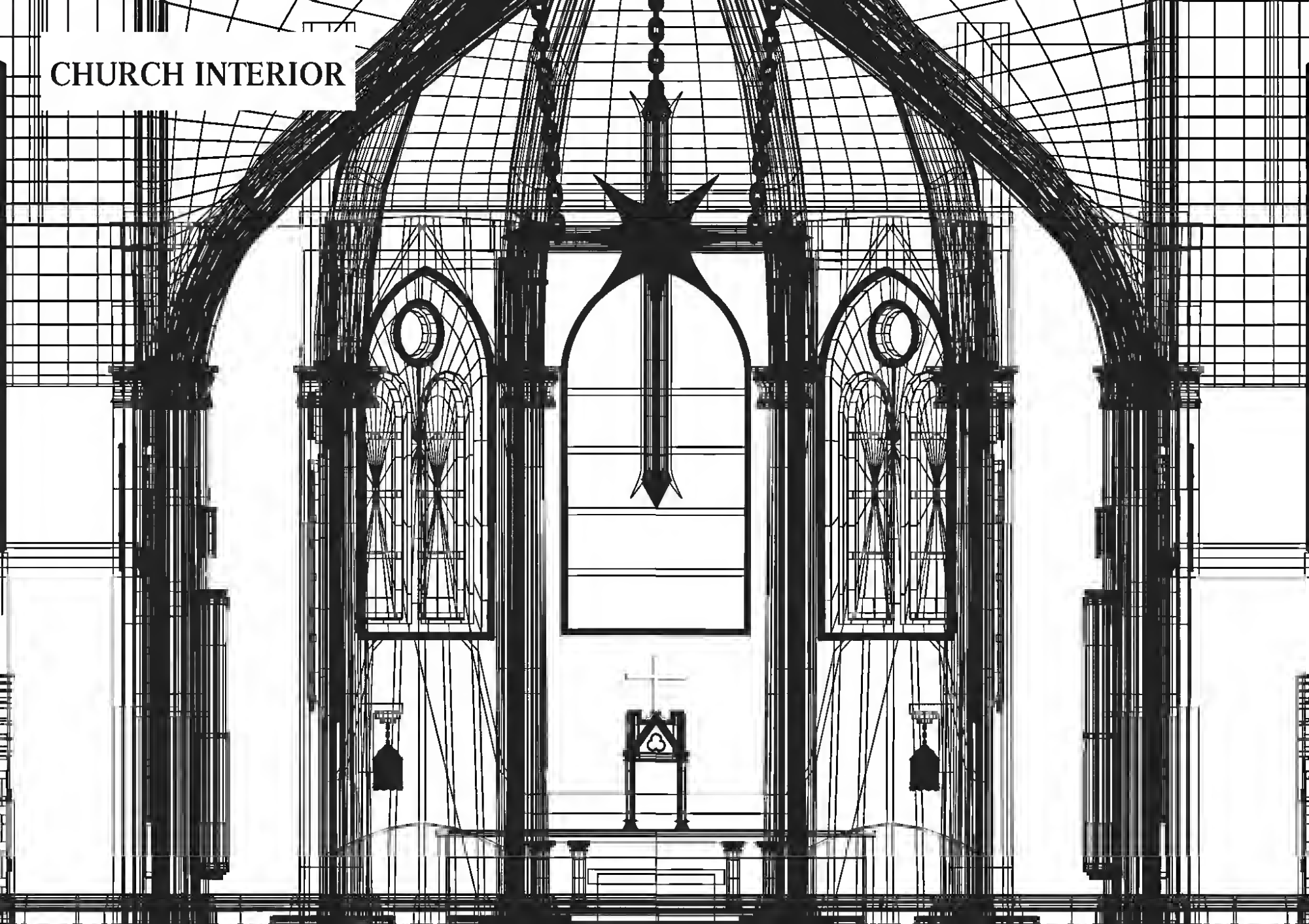
Makoto Di Nuovo



Cecilia Di Nuovo

Ryoji Kaji

Misato Katsuragi


CHURCH INTERIOR

OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR
NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH
GIVE US
TODAY
OUR
FORGIVE US
AS WE ALSO HAVE
FOR GIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO
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FOR YOURS IS
THE KINGDOM
AND THE POWER
AND THE GLORY FOREVER.
AMEN.

AFTERWORD

Thanks for picking up this book this time around. I just worked so hard on this series that when I paused to take a breath, I had already completed the second volume! And I still feel like it really didn't happen. But here it is, volume 2—thank you so much! I really mean it. While I am happy to see volume 2 finally out, I still want to see the original series move along at some point, too!

—Mingming

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NEON GENESIS EVANGELION CAMPUS APOCALYPSE Volume 2

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Welcome back to the Campus Apocalypse! I'm thrilled at the positive response that volume 1 has received from readers, and yet I am even more thrilled to bring another volume into the world. This volume opens with a dash of religion and a truckload of comedy; then, as the Angels' plans coalesce and strike, it grows darker and more menacing. Sure, there's less overt violence in volume 2—only Kaji's memory of the massacre from this world's version of the First Impact truly brings the blood and dismemberment—but the seeds of further mayhem are planted deep. The Angels are out to take over this world, starting with the most valuable and most vulnerable—Shinji Ikari and his fellow NERV Academy students.

The stakes expand and Kensuke and Toji are brought into the Angels' web through their shared love of video games, and in Kensuke's case, the thrill of being an early adopter. I am a proud member of Team Kensuke, and consider him something like the Wedge Antilles of *Evangelion*, though, of course, he, like everyone, gets pretty thoroughly killed—and more or less forgotten—when the shiz finally goes down. (Stupid Instrumentality, wrecking everything. :•)) I sure hope that in *Campus Apocalypse*, my favorite freckle-faced military geek gets the chance to survive and document the whole shebang for the Internet. Asuka really needs to become a viral YouTube star, don't you think?

And now, let's open the floor to some feedback.

So . . . Neon Genesis Evangelion: Campus Apocalypse *is awesome!*

As a huge fan of the original, I impulse-bought this little gem while browsing in Barnes & Noble. BEST PURCHASE EVER. Campus Apocalypse is leagues better than Angelic Days *and* The Shinji Ikari Raising Project! [Editor's note: At the risk of seeming immodest, I agree. Sorry, Carl.] *The art is crisp, gorgeous, and true to the original designs but still remains unique to the creator's style . . . beautiful!*

High-five, Dark Horse! I'll be following Neon Genesis Evangelion: Campus Apocalypse for sure!

And as an expression of my undying appreciation for you revitalizing the wonderful world of Evangelion, here's some fan art! I hope you like it. Asuka and Kaworu are my two favorite characters. <3

Thanks and keep up the good work!!

With much love,
Caitlin Ungar
State College, Pennsylvania

Thank you, Caitlin! Kaworu and Asuka are two of my favorite characters, too, though, as with the very best ensembles, it's nearly impossible to choose an absolute favorite. Some days, Kaji rocks my world, other days I want to toss down a beer or six with Misato; and sometimes I relate to the alienation and single-mindedness of Rei

Ayanami! And for some reason, I definitely relate to Kensuke! (It must be the glasses.) Still, it always comes back to Shinji for me; we see this world through his eyes, we feel his elation, reticence, and pain, and we experience frustration with his lack of self-belief. However, *Campus Apocalypse* does give Shinji an easier life, reinforcing his circle of friends and his understanding of his place in the world. (Also, that sweet gun helps.) It will be interesting to see if Mingming gives Shinji a break, or if she decides to dismantle his psyche in the way that original creator Hideaki Anno saw fit to do. I'm excited, either way.

I hope that the inclusion of Caitlin's letter—and her amazing artwork—opens the floodgates for more letters and art to come to us. Remember, we have loads of special goodies from Japan to give away, as well as space that is best used to allow the fans to provide their own points of view on the happenings in Tokyo-3. Who is your favorite character? Do you prefer lighter stories, or nightmarish descents into psychological hell? Have *Eva* news or links? Have you seen either of the *Rebuild of Evangelion* films that have been released so far? (I have seen both, and they TOTALLY ROCK.) What do you think of Mingming's uniform designs? Who deserves a sharp Lance of Longinus in the eye? Write in and tell us!

Dance like you want to win,
Jemiah

NEON GENESIS EVANGELION

Campus Apocalypse

Dark Horse is proud to present the second manga series in its *Neon Genesis Evangelion* line, Neon *Genesis Evangelion: Campus Apocalypse*!

Now that he's received his Eva, middle-school student Shinji Ikari commits himself to doing battle with the body-snatching Angels currently terrorizing the NERV Foundation Academy. However, when he finds out the answer to the mystery of what's been going on with Kaworu and Rei, Shinji begins to feel nagging doubt about truths, facts, relationships . . . even his own existence! Is he a burden to his teachers, friends, and family, or does he have a greater destiny? And will anyone make it through this struggle alive?

An original alternate-reality view of the characters and conflicts from the original *Evangelion* story, the second volume from manga creator Mingming raises the stakes facing Shinji, Asuka, Rei, Misato, and everyone in their lives!

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